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# **HISTORY OF PHALTAN STATE**

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## **PREFACE**

The study of former Phaltan state is interesting and fascinating because Phaltan state was one of the leading and oldest Maratha states in Southern Maratha country. Phaltan was the capital town of Phaltan state and now it is one of the taluka places of Satara of Maharashtra state at present.

The origin of this state goes to the middle of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. This state came into existence in 1248 A.D. and lasted upto 1948 A.D. During this lengthy period of 664 years, the Rulers served initially under Bahamins and Adilshahis and they undertook some political expeditions, when Shivaji founded Maratha Raj in Western Maharashtra, this royal family joined Shivaji's mission and supported the cause of Maratha Swarajya. There were in all 25 Rulers of this family.

The present study of the state of Phaltan is based on the original source material available from family records from Naik Nimbalkar as well as the Archives of Kolhapur, Bombay, Pune etc. In addition the published original sources are also referred from the Libraries of Shivaji University, Bharat Itihas Shanshodhak Mandal, Pune, Gokhale Institute, Poona, The secondary material also plenty of information

## II

regarding the subject matter of study which are also referred vigorously.

In the present study, an attempt has been made to explain the full details of the history of Phaltan citing the origin of the rulers, of their vassalage during the ages of North Indian Muslim rulers like Alauddin Khilji, Mohummad bin Tughluq and then the Bahamins and its off-shoots viz. Bijapur and Ahmednagar. Moreover the study gives details of the rulers of Phaltan states having their contribution for making of the Maratha Swarajya, then in expansion of the Maratha suzerainty in the North and the South. The present work give details of the political and administrative affairs of the ruler, their public utility works, system of administration, foreign affairs etc. Thus the study covers almost all aspects of the history of Phaltan state. I sincerely tried my best to present the unknown information to the readers and humbly attempted to enrich their knowledge. From my thesis I have drawn the following conclusions.

As to the methodology, I have used historical method throughout my work. I have made internal and external criticism. I have used imaginative faculty whenever necessary to link up instances and events. I have tried to observe strict objectivity in my study. This present work has been divided into the Eight Chapters.

### III

The first chapter deals with the physical features of the state. It also contains references to the myths and legends prevailing in the Phaltan area. Phaltan area was under Satvahanas, Vakatakas, the Chalukyas of Badami and Kalyani, the Silharas and the Yadvas of Devgiri, Adilshahi and afterwards Maratha. In the second chapter the events which led to the rise of the Maratha power due to the help of the members of the family of Naik Nimbalkar are cited.

The third chapter gives the details of the political and administrative activities of the rulers of the Phaltan under the Raja of Satara. And the agreement signed between the ruling East India Company and Naik Nimbalkars as well as agreement concluded Pratapsinh, Satara, Chhatrapati and Naik Nimbalkar of Phaltan. The fourth chapter is devoted to the reforms introduced of Mudhoji-IV (1860 to 1916 A.D. He considered as the first enlightened ruler of the state. He began the age of modernisation which is touch lives of the people.

The fifth chapter narrates the achievements of Malojirao who had succeeded after the death of his father Mudhoji IV. Hence for sake of research, I have made two phases of his study i.e. the first phase from 1917 A.D. to 1935 A.D. The sixth chapter is devoted to the second phase (1935 to 1948 A.D.) of Shrimant Malojirao's



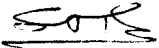
#### IV

achievements in particular and condition of the state in general. The seventh chapter surveys the general administrations of the state. The various aspects such as the definition of Jahagir, the position of ruler, Diwan and the powers and functions of various officials. The land revenue system, the revenue policy, taxes, judiciary and educational reforms, have been described in detail.

The eighth and the last chapter is an Epilogue in which contains a brief summary of discussions in the proceeding chapters and the research findings.

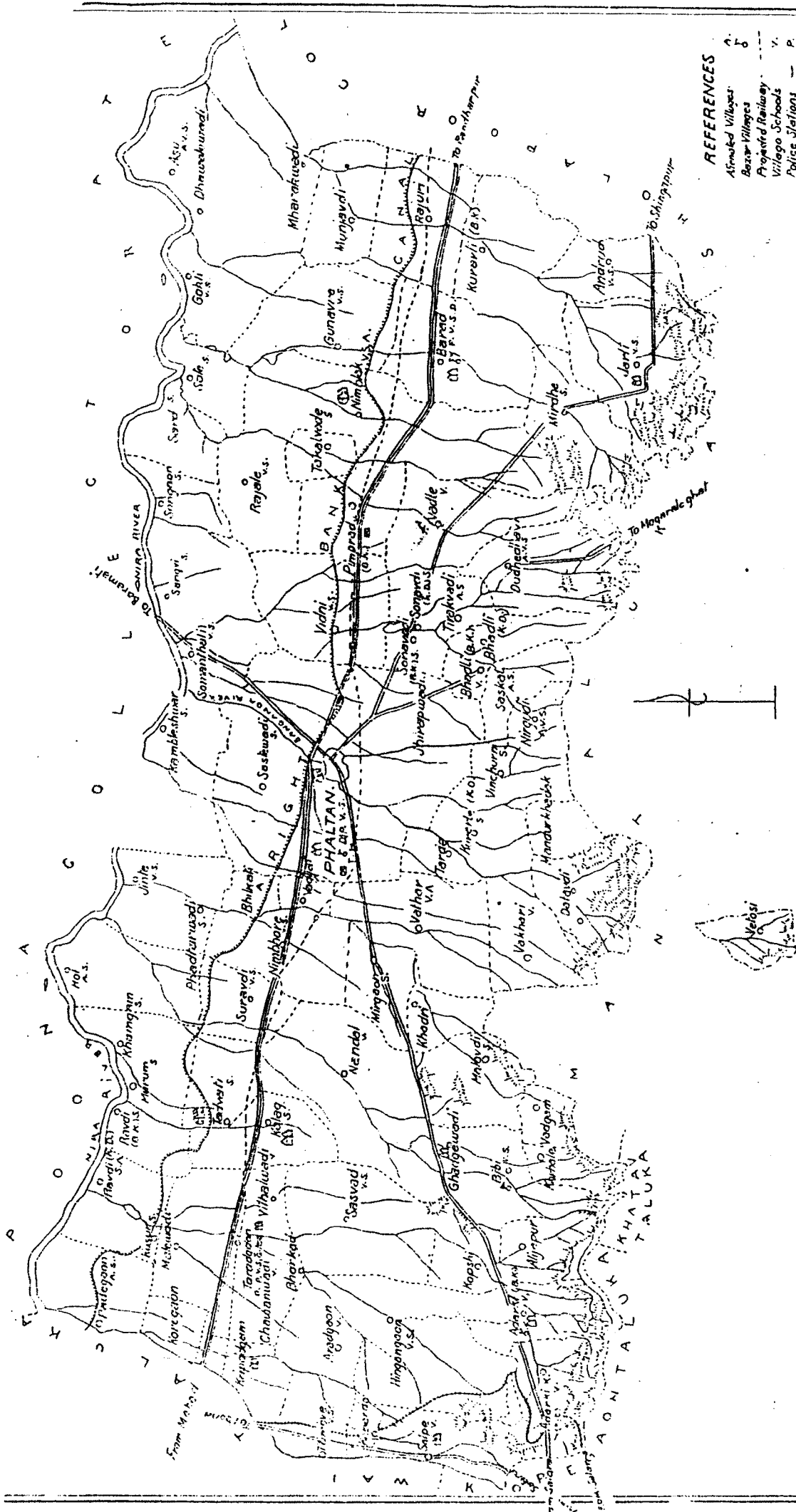
I have sincerely made an attempt to collect all available sources, literature, documents and tried to write a history of Naik Nimbalkars of Phaltan. I have also attempted to analyse their relations with the neighbouring powers, their contributions to the contemporary history and also attempted to allocate a justified place to this family in the rise and fall of the princely states in Bombay Presidency. This also may be, in my humble opinion, an authentic and systematic record of the Naik Nimbalkar family and its rulers.

I hope this will serve the purpose of general readers as well as research scholars.

  
(S. M. Gawade)

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MAP  
OF THE  
**PHALTAN STATE.**  
SATARA DISTRICT.

Scale: 2 Miles to an inch

- REFERENCES**
- ▲ Atmated Villages
  - Bazar Villages
  - Projected Railway
  - Village Schools
  - Police Stations
  - Co-operative Societies
  - Railway
  - Metalled Road
  - Canal
  - Unmetalled Road
  - Water-Pipe
  - Gram/Benchayul
  - Post Office
  - Dharmashala
  - Irrigation Bungalow
  - Dispensary
  - High School
  - Telegraph Office
  - Temple

## **CHAPTER – 1**

# **INTRODUCTION**

## **CHAPTER: I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The study of former Phaltan state is interesting and fascinating because Phaltan state was one of the leading and oldest Maratha states in Maharashtra. Phaltan was the capital town of Phaltan state and now it is one of the taluka places of Satara District of Maharashtra state at present.

The origin of this state goes to the middle of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Nimbraj I a descendent of the reputed Rajput Parmar (known in the Deccan as Pawar) clan came down to the Deccan from the North in the year 1270 A.D. and settled at the foot of the Shambhumahadev range, an offshoot of the Sahyadri Mountain. After some time he finally settled at Nimbalk (A village about 9 miles in the east of Phaltan) from which the surname of Nimbalkar runs in the ruling family.

Thus this state came into existence in 1284 A.D. and lasted up to 1948 A.D. During this lengthy period of 664 years, the Rulers served, initially under Bahamanis and Adilshahis and they undertook some political expeditions. When Shivaji founded Maratha Raj in western Maharashtra, this

royal family joined Shivaji's mission and supported the cause of Maratha swarajya.

Naik Nimbalkar family of Phaltan had an unique prestige and dignity in Shivaji's court because his first wife Saibai hailed from this family. In addition, Dipabai from this family was married to Maloji, from this couple born Shahaji the father of Shivaji. Moreover, Shivaji also gave his Daughter Sakhubai in marriage to Bajaji's son Mahadaji Naik Nimbalkar. This indicates the high social status of this family during Maratha period. Naik Nimbalkar also served Peshwa and undertook active part in expansion of the Maratha Raj during the 18<sup>th</sup> century, After the fall of Peshwas, Phaltan state became one of the feudatories of Satara Raj created by East India Company in 1818A.D. After the lapse of Satara Raj in 1848A.D. Phaltan state became one of the S.M.C. states.

The last two rulers Shrimant Mudhojirao (1860 A.D. to 1948 A.D.) and Shrimant Malojirao (1916 A.D. to 1948 A.D.) were progressive, enlightened and distinguished rulers. Under them Phaltan state achieved all around progress and it became one of the model and ideal states in the British India. During British period this state consisted of 80 villages. This state finally merged into Bombay Presidency on 8<sup>th</sup> March 1948A.D.

Therefore in this Ph.D. thesis an humble attempt has been made to study the establishment of Phaltan state, its growth, vital role played by the rulers during Bahamanis, Adilshahi, Marathas viz. Shivaji, Peshwa, and Satara and lastly the contribution of last two great rulers, Shrimant Mudhojirao and Shrimant Malojirao for their reforms and all-round progress of this state by using original sources such as Annual Administrative Reports of the Phaltan state, Annual Reports of Bombay Presidency, Family Records of Naik Nimbalkars housed in Phaltan Royal Palace , some Persian documents related to this family published by Bharat Itihas Sanshodhan Mandal Poona ; and other private papers from Bombay , Kolhapur , Poona Archives, as well as secondary sources.

## **METHODOLOGY OR APPROACH TO THE PRESENT STUDY**

### **SOURCES:**

It is truism to say that History as a subject of study is more or less completely at the mercy of sources. There is unanimity among the historians when they say, "We obtain our knowledge from historical sources." The past history of people can only be reconstructed on the basis of relics or traces left by them.

This is study of an old Historical family, therefore I used Historical method, and after the selection of the topic, I personally visited Bombay,

Poona, Kolhapur Archives and collected relevant original source material concerning Phaltan state. This collected data was scrutinized and internal and external criticism is applied and some final conclusions are drawn on the basis of original sources. I also studied records available in Phaltan Royal Palace and collected some important Historical information. Naik Nimbalkars were served under Adilshahi rulers, who issued some Persian *Sanads* to this Royal family and confirmed their rights over their *Jagir*. These Persian documents are translated and published by Bharat Itihas Sanshodhak Mandal, Poona. I also utilized these Persian documents to reconstruct their early History. Moreover for modern period, Administrative reports of Phaltan state are available since 1853A.D. to 1948A.D., which are treasure house for narrating the detail History of Phaltan state. The administrative reports cover the aspect like important political events, public instruction, public revenue income and expenditure on public health and public utility activities of rulers.

Even the Administrative Reports of the Bombay Presidency also available in Bombay and Poona archives shed light on the History of Phaltan state in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Right from 1853A.D. onwards Administrative reports of Bombay Presidency are available and there is one chapter on S.M.C. states in which Phaltan state included volumes of contemporary source material which furnished number of minute details regarding Phaltan state. I



studied all these Administrative Reports of Bombay Presidency carefully while presenting my statement in this thesis.

Besides this some original orders of Phaltan rulers are available. Phaltan state gazette is also important and helps to narrate whole history of Phaltan state. There are some special issues published on the occasion of 60<sup>th</sup> Birth anniversary of Malojirao (last ruler) some articles regarding Phaltan History are important and useful for study of Phaltan state. These are some of the important source material, which utilized for presenting my subject. (A detail bibliography is attached at the end of this work)

There is an attempt to bring a few new points to the limelight. It appears from the studies done about Maratha states the Phaltan state or Sansthan has missed from the eyes of the researchers. The present study is interesting and illuminating.

### **GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES: -**

It is a commonplace knowledge that the course of human history in a region is shaped by its physical features. It is known that the History of any region is partly influenced by its geographical features and situations. Geography and Chronology are the “Sun and Moon” the right and the left eyes of History. The influence of geography is said to account for certain pattern of culture and means response to the challenge of the nature, which determines the feature of country. A proper perspective of development of the course of the History of any region can therefore be better understood if we know the geographical location and parameters. Therefore it is not wrong to see here the geographical situations, site, climate, and rainfall etc. of the Phaltan state, shaped the course of its history.

The Phaltan state lies between 17°49' and 18°6' north latitudes and 74° 9' and 74° 43' east longitudes and is situated to the northeast of the District of Satara in the Bombay Presidency.<sup>1</sup> It is bounded on the north by the river Nira and the Poona district. On the east by the Solapur district, on the south with exception of one detached and outlying village Veloshi in the Phaltan state by Shambhumahadev range of hills in the Satara district and on the west by the *sarhad* (meaning boundary) Nala and the Satara district.<sup>1</sup> The state territory lies wholly in the Nira valley and forms a compact rectangular block

territory lies wholly in the Nira valley and forms a compact rectangular block with an extreme length east to west of about 32 miles and a breadth of about 14 miles. The area of the state was 397sq. miles in total.

A chain of hills trends along the southern boundary of the state and on the southwest the country is hilly and high lying, gradually sloping towards the east. For a few miles after which it becomes a fairly level plain up to the eastern boundary. The soil in the plain is of rich black clay of variable depth, highly retentive of moisture and very fertile.

Phaltan, the capital town of the state lies in latitude 17°59'N and longitude 74° 26' E and it is situated at the centre of the state on the Mahad-Pandharpur road which connects it with the Madras and Southern Maratha railway station of Lonand, a distance of 17 miles. It lies 66 miles southeast from Poona and 46 miles southeast from Satara. The capital town is well known for its dry and healthy climate.<sup>2</sup>

In the south east of former Phaltan state there are big and small mountains. Maximum land of the state was arable and at some places it is unarable. The rainfall was less in the state and only seasonal crops were taken.

As noted above in the mountains of the southeast, the chain of Shambhumahadev Mountain is famous. This chain is known after God Shambhumahadev. Number of pilgrims visited the Holy Mountain after

crossing the Phaltan state. In the state all different communities viz. Hindus, Muslims, Jains etc. live peaceful and there was a communal harmony.

Agriculture was main occupation in the state. In addition cattle and poultry farming was also found. In the medieval period the Phaltan state was known for production, marketing of groundnut, jaggery, jowar, grains etc.<sup>3</sup>

An Annual Administrative Reports of Phaltan state of 1890-91 A.D. runs as follows: - "The state was famous for production of silk and cotton clothes, handloom textiles like *Dhotarjodi* (Dual lower garments) *Upparani* (Upper garments) *lugadi* (sarees) kardi oil, jagger, wheat, jowar, country cotton woolen blankets. These products were exported<sup>4</sup> and the items like superior textiles spices etc. were imported for making good profits. The merchants like Marwadi from Gujrat, Satara, and Poona have been settled in the Phaltan state. It is obvious from the accounts that in the medieval ages the Phaltan state was big business centre."<sup>5</sup>

#### **EARLY HISTORY OF PHALTAN STATE: -**

#### **THE MYTHS PREVAILING IN THE PHALTAN AREA: -**

The myths are prevalent in many and are generally pseudo historical or semi-historical accounts of war heroes, important people, artists, philosophers, wise men and contributors to religions and culture. It is rather unfortunate that

there is hardly a dividing line between history and myths, many times the dividing line is pushed in either side through enthusiasm and then the myths get mingled with history and history gets distorted into myths. More dangerously the blend of historical character with mythical details make the work of historian difficult. Real historical sketch as the part of the story of the land a heritage, a culture and the stark analysis by a historian is not liked by people because their heroes are reduced down to human form the image of Gods. Nonetheless, the myths are important because they enable people to know cultural and social history of the land. Once it is understood that myths are not to be taken as history, and their analysis is to be done cautiously. They are useful tools of a historian interested in cultural and social history.

It is very interesting to see some legends and myths which were prevalent in this area and which drew one to prehistoric period. There are a number of old traditions and customs coupled to the myths told by old people of Phaltan state.

The detailed study of some names of the villages and myths which have come down from generation to generation show that the people believe in some of the ancient events which go back to the dawn of history and civilization in India.

It is accepted by some historians that traditions and legends cannot be completely ignored since every legend or tradition has some germs of truth, so it is worthwhile to know about some important traditions developed in this area and which are related to the Epic period.

The great Epics of the Aryans are the Ramayana and Mahabharata. Ramayana is the oldest and the most popular Epic of the Hindus. The characters depicted in them have become legendary heroes and they are worshipped as the incarnations of Gods.

These have become national Epics and many festivals are held in every nook and corner of the country to commemorate the memory of heroes of the Epics. Some legendary accounts are also said to be related to the capital town of Phaltan.

#### **ANCIENT HISTORY OF PHALTAN AREA:-**

#### **OLD MONUMENTS AND TEMPLES:-**

In ancient literature Phaltan is known as Palasthan. In Phaltan there are many temples like Jabreshewar, Rameshowar, Manakeshowar, Trijateshewar, Vithalshiv, Shriram etc and these temples are testimony for ancient history of Phaltan.

The Mahanubhav sect calls Phaltan as southern Kashi. There are number of temples and myths belonging to this sect in the state. The people of Mahanubhav sect visit Phaltan from the Punjab and other states.<sup>6</sup>

The ancient history of Phaltan is glorious. In ancient literature and legends there are many references of Phaltan. In the book of Mahanubhav sect named 'Dakshin Kashi' we glean information about ancient Phaltan that Phaltan is southern Kashi of the Mahanubhav sect and lying in between Pune-Pandharpur road approximately 110 km. from both sides. It is situated on the bank of river Banganga. This village is very ancient and it has pre-historical background. There was a saint by name Phalasthrushi resided at Srikrishna temple.<sup>7</sup>

Inside the temple in the square, there lies a well known as 'Panpaikhani'. It is told that Prabhu Ramchandra visited the temple of Shrikrishna and hit a land of the temple by an arrow, which resulted in flow of water.<sup>8</sup> During the reign of ShinganRaja of Yadvas of Deogiri, the forest was removed on the bank of Banganga river and there he facilitated the growth of population (1210-1247 A.D.).<sup>9</sup> To this area people called Phalvadi (the area of fruits). Near the temple of Phalasthrushi there exists a tank. Once SinghanRaja took bath in it and his incurable disease disappeared. By this miracle he became very glad. He surrounded the water of tank by strong wall of stones.

On the top of the well he constructed an umbrella shaped roof. This place is since then known as Chaupalla. This Chaupalla it is called as Krishnanath temple. The people of Mahanubhav sect consider this place as most holy for them. As the time changed the name of this place was changed into Phalanwadi, Phalastan, and Phalapatten and in the last to Phaltan.<sup>10</sup>

Second tradition is related to Lord Rama. It is told that Phaltan area was situated in Dandkaranya during Ramayana period. When Rama was in exile Sita was thirsty and Rama threw his arrow and the birth of river Banganga took place. Banganga is flowing near Phaltan.<sup>11</sup>

There is another tradition that from where the water is flown as the source of Banganga River is called the Sitamayee hill. On the bank of this river there was a place called Phalagurushi and later this name was changed into Phaltan.<sup>12</sup>

Third myth explains that there were in early time a number of fruit gardens flourishing on the banks of river Banganga and the place was known as Phalsthan from which the name of Phaltan is derived.<sup>13</sup>

In the south of Phaltan there is a mountain of Shambhumahadev. On this mountain there are two forts of Varugurh and Santoshgurh *urf* Tatawadugurh.<sup>14</sup>



## **PHALTAN AREA UNDER EARLY DYNASTIES AND THE YADVAS OF DEVGIRI:-**

From the 3<sup>rd</sup> century A.D. to first half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century A.D. the region of Phaltan was ruled by the Satvahanas, Vakatakas, the Chalukyas of Badami, the Rashtrakutas, the Chalukyas of Kalyani, the Silharas, and the Yadvas of Devgiri respectively. Bhillam V (1173A.D. to 1192A.D) was the first independent Yadav ruler. Fortunately we have record, which states that Phaltan was one of the areas of his empire. A.V. Narasinha Murthy who worked on 'The Sevunas of Devgiri' says that his (Bhillam V) empire included Bijapur, Solapur, Gulbarga, and Phaltan state in addition to this patrimonial territories in Sevundesh.<sup>15</sup>

Singhan was the most distinguished ruler of the Yadav dynasty. Under him the empire reached its zenith. His long rule of 36 years was also a period of cultural progress. There are some Hemadpanti temples in the Phaltan state. The construction and method of building stonewall without mortar are known to have been adopted by Hemadri, treasurer and record keeper and minister under Mahadeo Yadav (1261A.D.to1270A.D.) and Ramchandradeo (1271A.D. to 1312A.D.). Hemadri or Hemad Pant was a Sanskrit scholar and the author of "Chaturvargachintamani". He also wrote a commentary called "Kaivaluadipika". He also credited with the invention of the Modi script and a

special type of temple architecture known as 'Hemadpanti'. There are temples carved out of stone without mortar with numerous moldings and frequently with an abundance of sculpture many of them are built on a peculiar plan, corners set obliquely.<sup>16</sup>

Hemad Panti temples are available in Phaltan city and adjoining villages, which shed light on association of Yadvas of Devgiri in this area.

In the vicinity of Phaltan there are number of Jain temples and their ruins of ancient period. It seems that there was a rule of the Silharas in the area of Kolhapur, Satara, and Karad. There was a population of Jain people and the Silhara kings patronized Jainism. That is why there are number of Jain remains in this area even today.<sup>17</sup>

The above references show the association of Yadav and Silhara dynasties in the Phaltan area.

Ramchandradeo Yadav(1271 to 1312 A.D.) was the last independent Yadav ruler and during his period Alauddin Khilji undertook his first expedition of the south in 1296 A.D. He defeated Ramchandra Yadav. Later on Malik Kafur invaded Deccan and defeated the Yadvas and brought their rule to an end in 1318 A.D. Thus ended the Hindu rule in Maharashtra and the Muslim rule had begun.

### **PHALTAN UNDER BAHAMANI KINGDOM(1347 to 1490A.D.):-**

Taking advantage of the chaos in Delhi in the later part of Muhammad bin Tuglak's (1325 to 1351 A.D.) reign, Hasan Gangu alias Zafar Khan declared his independence.<sup>18</sup> He ascended the throne at Devgiri as Alauddin Bahaman Shah and he founded new dynasty on 3<sup>rd</sup> august 1347 A.D. which was known as Bahamani dynasty<sup>19</sup> which ruled all over Maharashtra including Phaltan area.

Bahaman Shah had consolidated his kingdom before the death of Muhammad Bin Tuglak (1351 A.D) and provided it with natural frontiers having the Tapti on the north, the south Purna on the south-east, the Godavari and the Manjira on the east, the Krishna and the Ghatprabha on the south and the western ghats on the west.<sup>20</sup>

Bahaman Shah shifted his capital to Gulbarga for a better control over the Marathi, Kannada, and Telgu speaking regions of his kingdom.<sup>21</sup>

By 1352A.D. having carved out and consolidated a big kingdom for himself, Bahaman Shah started his career of further conquests. He had established his new capital at Gulbarga and subdued all the rebellions in his kingdom.<sup>22</sup> Having thus placed his kingdom on a firm basis, Bahaman Shah thought of expanding it.

Between 1352A.D. to 1354A.D. Bahaman Shah is reported to have undertaken five campaigns.<sup>23</sup> The first expedition to the northeast of his kingdom led to the subjugation of Mandva in the north (of the Tapti 20 miles to the north-east of Burhanpur). Mahur in the east (within the bend of the Penganga at the 78 the parallel longitude and the area enclosed by the north Purna River, the Pus River, the Satmala Range, the Godavari River and the south Purna. He led his second campaign into the Konkan in 1352A.D., which resulted in the conquest of the coastal strip between Goa and Chaul. On his return journey from Konkan he marched by way of Kolhar (Karad, Karhad) and Kolhapur. Both towns he seized from Hindu rulers and came back to Ahsanabad <sup>24</sup> i.e. Gulbarga. Thus Bahaman Shah on his way back from Konkan took Karhad and Kolhapur.

Hasan Gangu the founder of Bahamani Kingdom died on 11 February 1358 A.D. and succeeded by Muhammad Shah I.<sup>25</sup>

The former area of Phaltan state including Phaltan town became the part and parcel of Bahamani Kingdom since 1347 A.D. onwards.

#### **SOME NOTABLE MARATHA FAMILIES UNDER HASAN GANGU**

##### **BAHAMANI:-**

Almost all among the Bahamani ministers who took part in the administration were Muslims. The Ghorpades of Mudhol, the Nimbalkar of Phaltan the Manes of Mhaswad, the Ghatges of Malawadi and a few other families came on the scene from the beginning of the reign of the first Bahamani ruler. Alauddin Hasan Bahaman Shah and most probably they were his associates in throwing off the Tughluq yoke.<sup>26</sup>

This indicates the original family members of Naik-Nimbalkar served under Hasan Gangu Bahamani.

#### **ORIGIN OF PHALTAN STATE:-**

The origin of this state goes to the middle of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. A Nimbraj I a descendant of the reputed Rajput Parmar (known in the Deccan as Pawar) clan came down to the Deccan from the north in the year 1270 A.D. and settled at the foot of the Shambhumahadev range, an offshoot of the Sahyadri mountains. After some time he finally settled at Nimblak (a village about 9 miles in the east of Phaltan) from which the surname of Nimbalkar runs in the ruling family.<sup>27</sup> It is interesting to note that in 1327 A.D. his grandson, Nimbaraj II as a mark of Imperial appreciation of his father's heroic sacrifice of life in a hard-fought battle in the case of the Emperor Muhammad bin Tughlak received from him a *jagir* along with the hereditary title of Naik, and the right of using Morchels and Gold Toda which are regarded as insignia

of royalty of a very high order. The Rulers of Phaltan state have all along been so proud of this title and never willing to exchange it for even that of Raja.<sup>28</sup>

From 1284 A.D. to 1948 A.D. there were vicissitudes in the History of Phaltan state. In all 25 rulers of his family ruled Phaltan state.

It indicates that the Nimbalkar of Phaltan is one of the ancient Maratha families of Maharashtra and is a high caste Maratha family since 13<sup>th</sup> century onwards.<sup>29</sup> As other Maratha noble families this family also claims its decent from the Parmars of Malwa and therefore bore the surname Pawar originally. This family has a very long line of continuous ancestors, which it is difficult to believe unless supported by original genuine records.<sup>30</sup>

#### **CHANGE OF FAMILY NAME FROM PAWAR TO NIMBALKAR: -**

The following story narrates account for their rise to power and how Goddess was pleased and blessed them.

The origin person was one Nimbraj Pawar hailed from North India near Dhara city. He was famous person. In the north when the Muslims had their invasions and established their supremacy Nimbraj had proceeded to the South. It is told that in the forest near Kotual Mountain he mediated before a goddess for 11 years. The goddess had blessed and told him there you and your descendents would hold an Umbrella of power. He collected army and

accumulated wealth and settled at one hamlet called as Nimblak. From then onwards the Pawars were renamed as Nimbalkar.

Once in a night Nimbaraj dreamt that he obtained an idol of Goddess Nimjaidevi and cactus tree event morning he did never use and got an idol and constructed temple there and then it is known as Nimjai goddess. Nimbaraj I died in the year 1291 A.D. from that year itself the descendents of Nimbaraj are known as Nimbalkar after the name of that village.<sup>31</sup>

#### **VANAGABHUPAL NAIK NIMBALKAR: -**

During the rule of the Bahamanis the Raja of the Phaltan state Vanagabhupal Naik Nimbalkar(1349 to 1374 A.D.) had an important position in the Bahamani nobility. He took part in all-important political activities. He maintained very strong and vast army. He took part in the Bahamani expeditions in the south. Once in an expedition the Raja suffered due to heavy rains. The Raja Vanagabhupal married "Jaivantabai" the daughter of Kamraj Ghatage an important noble of Bahamani court.

Vanagabhupal Naik Nimbalkar was an able administrator and intrepid soldier. He ruled Phaltan Jahagir from 1349 A.D. to 1374 A.D. He was the contemporary of Hasan Gangu Bahamani and his son Muhammad Shah. He helped them to consolidate their kingdom. He breathed his last in 1374A.D.<sup>32</sup>

### **DISINTEGRATION OF BAHAMANI KINGDOM (1489 A.D.):**

Between 1482 A.D. to 1489 A.D. there was a great revolution in the Deccan, which arose due to weakness of the Bahamani kingdom. This weakness caused dissension of its nobles and finally dismemberment of the kingdom.

In 1489 A.D. the Bahamani kingdom was divided into five independent dynasties<sup>33</sup> of Bijapur, Berar, Ahmednagar, Bedar and Golkonda. In this new formation Panhala and Kolhapur fell to the share of Bijapur. The Adilshahi dynasty that held suzerainty about 20 years. From 1490 A.D. Phaltan rulers became the feudatories of the Adilshahi Sultans.

### **PHALTAN STATE UNDER ADILSHAHIS: -**

Soon the seeds of disintegration began to take firm roots in the Bahamani Kingdom. Its nobleman, Yusuf Adilshah governor of the Bijapur province took advantage and revolted against the central authority of the Bahamanis and founded Adilshahi rule in 1489 A.D.<sup>34</sup>



**YUSUF ADILSHAH (1490A.D. TO 1510 A.D.):**

Yusuf Adilshah slowly rose to highest position as a soldier to be a governor and later he caused the 'Khutubah' to be read in his name in September 1490A.D. and thus became the ruler of Bijapur state.

The Bijapur dynasty lasted up to 1686A.D. The Adilshahi territory extended up to the west coast, which included the Phaltan area.

Besides these two groups the Deccans and Afghans(foreigners) the Adilshahs had under them a number of Maratha sardars. They were to them what the Rajputs were to the Mughals. Yusuf Adilshah had married a Hindu lady later named as Boobuji Khannum. She was influential lady. This had ensured to him the support of the Marathas. They were employed in the army, Administration and as ambassadors. Some Maratha chieftains had also acknowledged the suzerainty of the Adilshahis. Chief among them were Shahaji Bhonsale, (the father of Shivaji) the Nimbalkar of Phaltan and the Ghorpades of Mudhol and others.<sup>35</sup> The Raja of Phaltan Maloji Nimbalkar loyally supported Adilshah I at the battle of Talikota (1565A.D.). Another distinguished Maratha family in the service of Bijapur was that of the Mores of Javali. Besides there were many other families like the Shirkas, the Mohites, the Ghatages and the Mahadiks who obtained places of power at the

Adilshahi court. Bajisahib Nayak the founder of the Nimbalkar family had stood by the time when Yusuf Adilshah declared his independence. Yusuf rewarded Bajisahib by granting the Jahagirs of Phaltan, which he previously held.<sup>36</sup> Yusuf Adilshah died in 1510A.D. After his death, in succession the following Sultans ruled in Bijapur.

1. Ismail Adilshah(1510A.D.-1534A.D.)
2. Mulla Adilshah(1534A.D.-1534A.D.)
3. Ibrahim Adilshah I(1534A.D.-1557A.D.)
4. Ali Adilshah I(1557A.D.-1580A.D.)
5. Ibrahim Adilshah II(1580A.D.-1626 A.D.)
6. Mohammad Adilshah (1626A.D.-1656A.D.)
7. Ali Adilshah II(1656 A.D.-1672 A.D.)
8. Sikandar Adilshah(1672 A.D.-1686A.D.)<sup>37</sup>

During their regime the Adilshahi rulers had to fight wars against Vijaynagar, Ahmednagar, Mughals, Marathas and many others foes. The Marathas were known for their bravery and fortitude. Many ambitious and cunning Marathas joined the Bijapur army and rose to eminence by their valour and deeds of bravery.

A veteran Historian Justice M. G. Ranade assessed the role of Maratha families who had found employment at the court of the Bahamanis (1347

A.D.-1526A.D.)and when that kingdom disintegrated these families continued to serve the principalities that rose on its ruins. From its inception Bijapur had a number of Maratha under them and in general terms they were known as Bargirs, Siledars and Captains. The Mores of Javali, the Ghorpades of Mudhol and the Brahmin Killedars of Pandharpur held places of importance in the court of the Adilshahs.<sup>38</sup>

M.G. Ranade while writing about “How the ground was prepared for the rise of the Maratha power.” narrates the following account in which one can come across the reference of Nimbalkar family which was one of the important families in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It runs as follows: “Mohammedan troops entered the Vijaynagar service when dissatisfied with their own masters and the Maratha Siledars and Bargirs freely enrolled themselves first as auxiliaries and later as the most powerful contingent in the contending armies. The second Bahamani King Muhammad Shah I (1358 A.D.-1375 A.D.) had bodyguards of two hundred Siledars. This training in arms brought education power and wealth with it and in the sixteen century. We meet with Ghadges and Ghorpades, Jadhavs and Nimbalkar, More and Shindes, Dafles and Manes as generals in charge of ten or twenty thousand horses and in the enjoyment of proportionate *Jagirs*.<sup>39</sup>

Generally it seems that Phaltankar Naik Nimbalkar stood with Adilshahi before the rise of Shivaji. But when Shivaji challenged Adilshahi power in western Maharashtra, Nimbalkars supported Shivaji's mission with wholeheartedly which we will assess in the next chapter.

#### **ADILSHAHI PERSIAN FARMANS TO NAIK NIMBALKAR :-**

There are some 15 Persian documents published by G.H. Khare in the Bharat Itihas Sanshodhak Mandal, Poona volume, which threw light on early History of Naik Nimbalkar, and the services rendered by them to the Adilshahi rulers.

Raja Maloji Naik Nimbalkar the last ruler of Phaltan and who was President of the general Body of the Bharat Itihas Sanshodhak Mandal Poona twice or thrice remarked that when he meet G.H.Khare he had entrusted the Persian Records in his possession for the Mandal. In these records there are 16 documents out of which one is Marathi, in Modi script and the remaining 15 are in Persian. Out of these 15 Persian documents 8 are Adilshahi Farmans (NO.13,11, 10,12,8,7,14,9)

The earliest of these records (NO.13) is an Adilshahi Farman dated 9<sup>th</sup> of Rajab 1044 H (20<sup>th</sup> December 1634A.D.) which bears the seal of Muhammad Adilshah (1626 A.D. to 1656A.D.). Its purport runs:“ Muhammad Khan should know that he has been ordered to proceed with his cavalry in excess of

the number 75 to help Mudho Pandit. He should therefore, immediately on receipt of this Farman reports himself with his cavalry to Mudho Pandit. He should in co-operation with that Pandit, render commendable service to this kingdom, which will result in his prosperity. He should well remember that it would be to his discredit if he hesitates and delays in abiding by this Farman.”<sup>40</sup>

The next (NO.11) is also an Adilshahi Farman dated the 14<sup>th</sup> of Shawwal 1049 H. (28<sup>th</sup> January 1640A.D.). Here Bajaji, the Desai of Pargana Phaltan has been ordered thus: “At present the representative of Bahlul Khan has represented to the court that this Pargana was given to the above mentioned Khan; but Bajaji with the help of 150 horsemen and infantry as well as the Patils and Kulkarnis of the Pargana has closed the boundaries of the Pargana and would not allow any government work to be done by him. What an impertinence is this? Immediately on receipt of this farman he recede back his steps and allow the servants of Bahlul Khan to do their duties.”<sup>41</sup>

Next in order (NO.10) is an Adilshahi farman dated 13 Rabi-ul-Awwal 1040 H. (23<sup>rd</sup> June 1640 A.D.). This Farman is addressed to Bajaji Nimbalkar and is to be the following effects. Bajaji has been conferred on the Sardeshmukhi and Sarnadgaudaki of Phaltan Pargana on condition of paying

as nazar 175 *hons* for the former right and 75 *hons* for the later right, thus 250 *hons* altogether.”<sup>42</sup>

NO.12 is also an Adilshahi *Farman* and is dated 1 Shawwal 1050 H. (3<sup>rd</sup> January 1641 A.D.). In this farman Bajaji, the Desai of the Pargana of Phaltan included in that of Kalhar (Karad of Satara Dist.) has been ordered as decided before to pay as salary to the six goldsmiths connected with the treasury and one servant connected with the elephant stables as per the following details: Channamal Virana 300 *hons*, Basaranna 250 *hons*, Girmaji Timaji 100 *hons* and Vanshankar Naraya, Kankanna Gondia and Naganna Sivappa 50 *hons* each. Thus all total 1000 *hons*. Now you pay these amounts to the respective persons.”<sup>43</sup>

The next Adilshahi *farman* (NO.8) has been addressed to the officers and Desais of the Pargana of Phaltan including that of Kalhar (Karad of Dist. Satara) and is dated the 19<sup>th</sup> of Shaban Shuhur year 1042 H. (13<sup>th</sup> November 1641 A.D.). This *Farman* states thus: “The Pargana of Phaltan has been taken back from Subaji Mudhoji Nimbalkar and has been given to Bajaji Mudhoji Nimbalkar as before. But it has not as yet been given in possession of Bajaji. The Miras of the Desgat (Desagiri) of the Pargana, through given to Bajaji, you are not giving the charge of the same to him. What a daring act is this? Immediately on receipt of this *farman* you should hand over this *farman* to

Bajaji and all the government duties of Desagiri should be accomplished through him as rules. The amount to be taken as *nazar* from him should be handed over to the goldsmiths connected with the treasury. Moreover, Kanhoji the Patel of Dargaon has revolted and foiled trouble with the help of Sabaji (Nimbalkar) you should chastise him so that he revolts not again.”<sup>44</sup>

The next Adilshahi *Farman* (NO.7) is dated the 8<sup>th</sup> of Ramadan 1051 H. (2<sup>nd</sup> December 1641A.D.) and is addressed to the officers of the Pargana of Phaltan. Its gist runs thus: “Mudhoji the son of Vanagapala Desai and Sardesai of the above mentioned Pargana has applied to the court and intimated him that having assembled his defendants gave out his intention that he wished to partition his belongings and his watan among his sons, so that they should not have any plausible cause for family feud. Jagadevrao and Sabaji the eldest and youngest sons respectively got the belongings horses, elephants, treasury, precious stones and clothes. Bajaji was given the Desgat and the sardesgat and the service to the government without portioning. Documents were prepared and were seen by the court. Now the above-mentioned Desgat, Sardesgat and patelgis have been conferred on Bajaji without any right to the property of two brothers. Here are given the details of what Bajaji received. All this should be continued to Bajaji; Jagadevrao and Sabaji had no rights in the possessions of Bajaji.”<sup>46</sup>

NO.14 is also an Adilshahi *Farman* dated the 10<sup>th</sup> Ziqada 1051 H. (31 January 1642 A.D.). Herein Bajaji Nimbalkar has been ordered thus: "As Anbar of DandaRajapuri has revolted, Asad Khan has been specially appointed on that affair(for quenching the revolt). Bajaji should report to the Khan with all haste and take part in the expedition. He will be awarded all that which the Khan would recommend to this court after taking into account his service to the cause."<sup>47</sup>

NO.9 is the last Adilshahi *Farman* and is dated the 29<sup>th</sup> Rajjab 1063 H. (16<sup>th</sup> June 1653 A.D.). This *Farman* has been addressed to the Hawaldar, Karkun and other officers. In this record it is said that presently Bajaji Naik Nimbalkar represented to the court that he was holding the *Deshmukhi* and *Sardeshmukhas* as *Miras* (hereditary occupation) as also an *inam* of 5 villages and 4 *chavars* of land each in 16 villages. But now the officers asked for a new *Farman* to the above effect. This petition of his was taken into consideration and he has been given the said *Miras* and *inam*. The officers should continue this *Miras* and *inam* to him as before."<sup>48</sup>

Thus this is a bird's eye view on the past History of Phaltan area. This Naik Nimbalkar family rose to power during Bahamani period and rendered valuable services to Adilshahi rulers at the beginning but when Shivaji their close relatives and clansman tried to establish his own Maratha *swarajya* in



the 17<sup>th</sup> century Nimbalkars supported Shivaji and joined the mission of Hindavi Swarajya which is narrated in detail in the next chapter.

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## **CHAPTER – II**

# **ROLE OF NAIK NIMBALKAR OF PHALTAN IN MARATHA HISTORY (1600 A.D. TO 1818 A.D.)**

**CHAPTER II****ROLE OF NAIK NIMBALKAR OF PHALTAN****IN MARATHA HISTORY****(1600A.D. to 1818A.D.)**

The foundation of Maratha Raj by Shivaji the Great was turning point in the History of Medieval India in general and in the History of Maharashtra in particular. By this event a new era dawned in Medieval India. The Maratha Kingdom founded by Shivaji in 17<sup>th</sup> century was a limited only in western India but in 18<sup>th</sup> century Maratha power became all India power. In the mission of Shivaji and later on under the leadership of Peshwa Maratha state expanded in all directions in India and number of Maratha Sardars and feudatories supported and helped to this cause.

In this chapter an attempt has been made to study the role of Naik Nimbalkars of Phaltan in a founding and expanding the Maratha Raj.

**MATRIMONIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN NAIK NIMBALKAR  
AND BHOSALE FAMILY: -**

The family of Nimbalkar of Phaltan was older than Bhosale family, the members of this family were prestigious sardars in the court of Bahamani, Nizamshahi and Adilshahi courts. This family had entered into

the matrimonial alliances with the Bhosale family. The matrimonial alliance between Nimbalkar and Bhosale enhanced the social position of Shivaji's family. The following are some matrimonial alliances, which started from Dipabai Nimbalkar with Maloji Bhosale, continued down to Ramraja period when he gave his daughter in marriage to one of the member of the Nimbalkar family.

The Muslims ruled over India for 5 to 6 centuries. However the three generation of Bhosale family had ruined their yoke in Maharashtra. This act is not done merely by the members of the Bhosale family. It is fact that, the ruling families of Maharashtra viz. Jedhe, Pasalkar, Mohite, Mane and Naik Nimbalkar actively supported the Bhosales. Among all these Naik Nimbalkar had held predominant position and played dominant and a vital role with the Bhosales.

The members of the Bhosale family, Maloji and his grandson Shivaji established matrimonial relations with Naik Nimbalkar. As a result the Bhosale family gained prestige and position in the society of Maharashtra. This relationship helped Shivaji a lot for establishing Hindu *swarajya*. Every member of Naik Nimbalkar whole-heartedly helped Shivaji in political affairs of his state. The following are some of the instances. After the death of Maloji Naik Nimbalkar II (1560A.D. to 1570A.D.) Jagpalrao alias

Vangoji Naik II ascended the throne of Phaltan.<sup>1</sup> He ruled from 1570 to 1630 A.D. He was very brave and able commander of the strong army. At the age of 20, only he began to take part in the state activities.

#### **RISE OF BHOSALE FAMILY: -**

Tradition traces the origin of the Bhosale family to Bhosaji Maharana, great grandson of Maharana Sajjansingh Sisodia of Udaypur. Two brothers Khelkarnaji and Malkarnji descendents of Bhosaji Maharana came to the Deccan and took services under Sultan Ahmed Shah of Ahmednagar. The Sultan being pleased with the chivalrous brothers enrolled them among the nobility of the court and conferred upon them a *mansab* of 1500 horse each.<sup>2</sup> The Pargana of Chakan Purandhar and Supe were also granted to them in *jagir*. Once while they were drowned in water Babajiraje son of Malkarnaji being a minor Sultan Ahmedshah did not confer upon him the mansab of his father and also confiscated the *jagir* granted to the two brothers.

The mother of Babaji took the child to Verul near Daulatabad and lived there in peace with the small patrimony left to her. Babaji grew up a shrewd and able man and soon left Verul with the permission of his mother to seek fortune elsewhere. He came to the south and acquired by purchasing the Patilki vatan of three villages on the bank of Bhima in the Pargana of Purandhar. In 1552A.D. a son was born to him who was named Maloji and



another after some time second son was Vithoji had borned .<sup>3</sup> Babaji was very peaceful man lived happily at Deulgaon till his death. Maloji and Vithoji were very brave and active warriors and wanted to regain the dignity of the family and to seek fortune by the valour of their arms. They were great devotees of God Shambhu Mahadev and through the blessing of a *gosavi* soon got an opportunity of recovering the lost fortune of the family. God Shiva of Sikhar Singhanpur (Dist.Satara), which is at a short distance (32K.M.) to the south of Phaltan state.<sup>4</sup>

#### **MALOJI BUILT TANK AT SHIKAR-SHINGANAPUR: -**

The God Shiva of this place is said to have migrated from Saurashtra and is therefore another form of Somantha of Saurashtra. When this God migrated to Sikhara Singhanapur situated on a high spur of Sahyadri range there was no water to drink and no trees to sit under their shade.<sup>5</sup> It was all a barren plateau. But out of singular devotion to this God Maloji excavated a tank at this place to be filled in with rainwater. Maloji's son Shahaji, grandson Shivaji the great and his descendents had the same devotion towards this God as shown by Maloji. Shahaji managed to get the township of this place as *inam* from the Adilshah of Bijapur in order to make best arrangement of the worship of that God .<sup>6</sup>

**SERVICE OF MALOJI AND VITHOJI BHOSALE UNDER VANGOJI  
NAIK NIMBALKAR OF PHALTAN: -**

Maloji and Vithoji took services under Vanangpal or Vangoji Naik, the Maratha chief of Phaltan who lived in the wild mountains of Shambhumahadev separating the territories of the Sultan of Ahmednagar from those of the Sultan of Bijapur.<sup>7</sup>

Once while the chief was out on a plundering raid to Kolhapur. He was attacked by detachment of the Bijapur army; a skirmish ensued, in which Maloji and Vithoji showed extraordinary valour and brought their master's band safely back to the mountains.<sup>8</sup> The news of this exploit spread far and wide and it soon reached the ears of the Sultan of Ahmednagar who expressed his desire to engage the services of those warriors among the nobility of the court. There were some favorably to the two brothers, who taking the kind invited Maloji and Vithoji to the court. On their arrival at the capital, they were presented to the Sultan, who being pleased with their chivalrous behavior conferred upon them a *mansab* of 1500 horses each, and for the maintenance of their troops granted to them in *Jagir* and the fort of Shivneri with its dependency the province of Junnar.<sup>9</sup> Lakhooji Jadharao, who was a noble of great fame at the Nizamshahi court, gave information of the rise of Maloji and Vithoji to his kinsman Vangoji Naik Nimbalkar of

Phaltan. That chief invited the two brothers with their mother to Phaltan and offered to Maloji his sister Dipabai.<sup>10</sup> The marriage was celebrated with great pomp and splendor at Phaltan. Thus Maloji and his brother Vithoji were in the service of Vangoji alias Jagpal Nimbalkar of Phaltan. It appears that on the recommendations of Lakhuji Jadhavrao a prominent Maratha Sardar from Sindkher in the Nizamshah Kingdom. Vangoji offered his daughter Dipabai or Umabai in marriage to Maloji. This means that Maloji must have acquired a status comparable to the Nimbalkar even prior to this matrimonial alliance.<sup>11</sup>

Vithoji was also married and the whole family after visiting and offering prayers to God Shambhu Mahadev returned to the Nizamshahi court paid respects to the Sultan. Dipabai bearing no issue for a long time once visited the Holy Pir Shah Sarif in the Masjid at Ahmednagar and had the blessing of a Pious fakir. Thereafter two sons were born to her one in 1594A.D. named Shahaji.<sup>12</sup> The influence of Maloji, day by day increased at Nizamshahi court; and through the interference of the Sultan himself, his son Shahaji was married to Jeejabai, daughter of *vazeer* Lakhooji JadhavRao the marriage was celebrated great festivities in which the Sultan also shared a great pleasure. In this marriage Vangoji or Jagapalrao Naik Nimbalkar helped Maloji Bhosale.<sup>13</sup>

The members of Bhosale family of Hingani and Beradi annually took pilgrimage to Shambhu Mahadev at Shinganapur. While on pilgrimage they stayed at Phaltan palace, which is on their way.

#### **VANGOJI'S RELATION WITH MALOJI AND VITHOJI: -**

During the reign of Vangapal, Maloji and his brother Vithoji by the permission of their mother visited his Durbar. At that time Vangapal was capturing the Padshahi country. (Adilshahi territories) and extending boundaries of his state. Because of his military excursions and bravery his rule is called as "*Baraa Vajeerancha Kaal*"<sup>14</sup> (the rule of 12 ministers). Maloji and Vithoji earned big name because of Vangapal's help and protection. Maloji and Vithoji two brothers served under Vangoji alias Jagpal who was influential Maratha noble in the court of Ahmednagar. The Patronage of Vangoji to Maloji and Vithoji for the first time earned their names and increased prestige.<sup>15</sup> Vangapal at the head of strong army invaded Adilshahi territories and collected huge wealth. Vangapal and Maloji were of same age but looking to the abilities of Maloji, Vangapal appointed him in a big post in his court on annual payment of 1200 *hons* (gold coins). Before this Maloji was in service of the Jadhavrao of Devgiri, where the post was not prominent. Whenever Vangapal undertook expeditions Maloji and Vithoji took part and rendered him their valuable services.<sup>16</sup>

It is said that in 1590-92A.D. Jagpalrao alias Vangapal invaded the Adilshahi territories near Kolhapur. The whole army encamped beside the Rankala tank in the west of Kolhapur. Vangapal desired swimming in the tank and his soldiers too followed him. When they were busy in swimming in this juncture, the Adilshahi forces attacked them. Notwithstanding their position the Phaltan army took the position and fought bravely. The Adilshahi forces were defeated and fled in all directions.<sup>17</sup>

In this encounter against the Adilshahi, Maloji and Vithoji played a vital role. They killed and made prisoners a large number of enemies. They seized 700 horses and bag and baggages of Adilshahi forces. A large booty also fell in their hands. From this event Maloji and Vithoji became important nobles of the Phaltan state. Their position had risen to maximum extent.<sup>18</sup>

This event indicates that early activities of Maloji and Vithoji were taken place under Vangapal Nimbalkar of Phaltan.

#### **REWARD FROM VANGAPAL TO MALOJI AND VITHOJI:-**

When the Nizamshahi Sultan of Ahmednagar learnt about the bravery and high prestige of Maloji and Vithoji he sent a letter of invitation to them through his minister Lakhuji Jadhavrao.

Maloji and Vithoji after seeking permission of Vangapal visited their native Deulgaon to see their mother. There they received the letter of

Nizamshahi Sultan. It was confirmed in the letter the ancestral Jagirs and properties of the Bhosale family by the Sultan. The Sultan also invited them in the Nizamshahi service. Maloji and Vithoji returned to Phaltan and delivered the contents of the letter before Vangapal. He was pleased to see invitation of the Sultan. Vangapal permitted the brothers and rewarded them 1200 *hons* each and 2 horses.<sup>19</sup>

The Nizamshahi Sultan received the Bhosale brothers with great respect and confirmed them in the service of Nizamshahi in the mansab of 1500 horse each and the Pargana of Junnar and the fortress of Shivneri for maintenance of their forces.<sup>20</sup>

#### **MARRIAGE OF DIPABAI WITH MALOJI BHOSALE:-**

Once Lakhoji Jadhavrao the Nizamshahi noble told to Vangapal that the Nizamshahi Sultan had conferred big *Jagirs* and key posts on the Bhosale brothers. Vangapal sent Laxman Bhat Upadaya and invited Maloji and Vithoji and their mother to Phaltan and offered hands of his elder sister Deepabai in marriage to Maloji.<sup>21</sup> This seems to be the first matrimonial alliance between Bhosale and Nimbalkar families. Vangapal gave precious jewels, dresses, palanquin and one elephant in the marriage and bid farewell with great respect and honour.<sup>22</sup>

### **BIRTH OF SHAHAJI BHOSALE (15 MARCH 1594A.D.):-**

On 15<sup>th</sup> March 1594A.D. Deepabai gave birth to Shahaji Bhosale.<sup>23</sup>

It is also noted in many accounts that Vangapal, Vangoji alias Jagpalrao , the great Maratha Sardar directed Lakhojirao Jadhavrao who was his relative to give his daughter Jeejabai to Shahaji Bhosale. Vangapal proposed this offer inspite of enmity existed between the Jadhav and Bhosale families. This was his greatness.<sup>24</sup>

### **MARRIAGE OF SHAHAJI WITH JEEJABAI:-**

Jagpalrao Naik seems to have been a man of great influence. It was through his exertions that the marriage of Maloji's son Shahaji and Jeejabai took place. Lakhudev Jadhavrao's daughter was brought her wishes against of her parents.<sup>25</sup> Malasbai, the wife of Lakhoji Jadhavrao and Deepabai wife of Malojiraje Bhosale belonged to the family of Naik Nimbalkar of Phaltan. Malasbai was an aunt to Dipabai. Therefore Lakhoji Jadhavrao gave his daughter Jeejabai in marriage to Shahaji Bhosale, son of Maloji Bhosale. This matrimonial alliance was made by the contribution of Vangoji Naik Nimbalkar.<sup>26</sup>

### **ESTIMATION OF JAGPALRAO NAIK NIMBALKAR: -**

Jagpalrao Naik Nimbalkar had great affection and honour for Maloji Bhosale. For this reason the Bhosale family developed by all means. This helped a lot and the Bhosale family achieved considerable political importance.

Grant Duff the author of 'History of Marathas' opined that Jagpalrao Naik Nimbalkar was responsible for mediating marriage between Shahaji and Jeejabai.<sup>27</sup>

Jagpalrao Naik Nimbalkar in particular and the members of this family in general had helped the Bhosales in all respect. Their co-operation and encouragement helped a lot. As a consequence Shahaji and Shivaji were able to carve out the Maratha *swarajya* in the Deccan. Vangojirao Naik Nimbalkar was known for bravery and valour. His sword was always ready for wars and hunting. He lost his life in the battlefield itself. He died the death of a soldier. The palace records of Phaltan inform us that this brave man Vangojirao died in the war fought between Shahajan the Mughal emperor and Mohammad Adilshah of Bijapur.<sup>28</sup>

### **REIGN OF MUDHOJI II (1630A.D.-1644A.D.): -**

Mudhoji II ascended the throne of Phaltan state after the death of his father in 1630 A.D.<sup>29</sup> He ruled the state 1644 A.D. During his reign he had



very good contacts with Shahaji Bhosale. He had two wives. The eldest wife was having two sons named Sabajirao and Jagdevrao. The elder wife had one son named Bajajirao and one daughter Saibai. All sons of Mudhoji II always quarrelled among themselves. In 1634A.D. by these quarrels the eldest wife of Mudhojirao II left Phaltan to Bijapur with her sons.

She pleaded her case before Mohammad Adilshah. The Sultan accorded his sanction and had given the *Jagirs* of Dahigaon and Bhalavani to her sons respectively.<sup>30</sup>

Before Mohammad Adilshah could award his sanction of Jagirs to sons of eldest wife of Mudhojirao II, the relation between the Sultan and Mudhojirao II were strained in 1631A.D. itself. Mudhojirao II always sacked the villages on the frontiers of Adilshahi kingdom. When Mohammad Adilshah received this news he dispatched a big army against him. The two opposite armies met in a battleground near Satara. In this Mudhojirao II was defeated. The commander of Adilshahi forces imprisoned him in the fort of Satara where Mudhoji II got his second wife and son Bajajirao with him in the fort of Satara. Mohammad Adilshah confiscated the Jagirs of Phaltan state. Approximately for ten years Mudhojirao II was confined in the fort of Satara. It was only by good offices of Shahaji Bhosale who had entered recently into the services of Adilshahi, got released Mudhojirao II

Mohammad Adilshah ordered his administrator of Phaltan to restore *Jagirs* to Mudhojirao. Mudhojirao organized administration and restored law and order in his region.<sup>31</sup>

### **SAIBAI NIMBALKARS MARRIAGE WITH SHIVAJI (1640-41A.D.): -**

To the disagreement that arose between Shivaji's parents in consequence of the new connection formed by Shahaji and the troubled state of the country, we may ascribe the circumstance of Shivaji's not having seen his father for a period of seven years or from the year 1630 to 1636 inclusive when Shahaji went with Moropant to Bijapur, Jeejabai accompanied him, but only remained until the celebration of Shivaji's marriage with Saibai, the daughter of Nimbalkar.<sup>32</sup>

### **MUDHOJIRAO II AND HINDVI SWARAJYA : -**

For formulation of Hindavi *swarajya* of Shivaji Mudhojirao II helped a lot. This created suspicion in the mind of Mohammad Adilshah. Mudhojirao did not like his sons who were his from eldest wife, rather he preferred Bajaji the son of his second wife. Even he nominated him as his successor.<sup>33</sup>

To achieve his objects Shivaji instigated Mudhojirao to attack the Adilshahi territories. This caused disturbances and the law and order perished. Mudhojirao II stationed troops at Shirval.<sup>34</sup>

#### **TRAGIC END OF MUDHOJIRAO II: -**

At Shirval there was a widow daughter of chor. Once the widow went to the Palace and requested Mudhojirao II for shelter. He agreed to the request of the widow. Her father complained to the sons of eldest wife of Mudhojirao II. Then the sons complained to Sultan Mohammad that their father had given shelter to a widow, in addition he helped Shivaji by all means, which ultimately led to looting and creation troubles in the villages. Sultan Mohammad sent an Adilshahi force against Mudhojirao II. A battle was fought at Bholi, Mudhojirao II was defeated and killed by his sons under a banian tree since then that place is known as *Bapmaricha Vad*.<sup>35</sup> The other son Bajaji was imprisoned in Bijapur by Sultan Mohammad for the reason that his father looted the villages on Adilshahi from tiers.

#### **BAJAJI'S RECONVERSION TO HINDUISM: -**

After imprisonment of Bajaji Sultan Mohammad pronounced death penalty on him. The Maratha Sardars in the court of Bijapur, Mane, Ghatage, Kaloji Shinde, Tatavadekar and others requested the Sultan on behest of Bajaji to reconsider his decision. The Sultan agreed to spare

Bajaji's life on the condition of accepting Islam by him. As it was agreed upon Bajaji accepted Islam, the Sultan gave him his daughter in marriage and titles to him. Bajaji stayed for some time in Bijapur. The Sultan's daughter pleaded for restoration of all *Jagirs* and title to her husband, the Sultan considered the request of her daughter. Thus Bajaji's former titles and Jagirs were restored in 1651A.D.<sup>36</sup>

When Bajaji reached Phaltan, Jeejabai mother of great Shivaji took him to the temple of Shambhu Mahadev at Shinganapur. There Bajaji was reconverted to Hinduism from Islam.<sup>37</sup> After reconversion Bajaji married two daughters of the Maratha Sardars from them thus born Gorakhaji, Mahadaji, Vangoji, Mudhoji.

The Maratha Sardars treated Bajaji's family lowest in the society because earlier he had accepted Islam. To raise position of Bajaji's family among the Maratha class, Chattarpati Shivaji gave his own daughter Sakhubai in marriage to second son of Bajaji named Mahadaji.<sup>38</sup> By this act Shivaji earned great name and fame throughout the Maratha country. He saved one Maratha family from degradation and up kept the purity of Maratha clans.

The above marriage of Mahadaji and Sakhubai was celebrated in Poona. By this marriage the relations between the Bhosale and Nimbalkar

families had become more cordial than earlier. Bajaji was highly indebted to Shivaji for his kindness and help. Hence Bajaji helped Shivaji in all his expeditions and political affairs against his enemies.<sup>39</sup>

#### **SHIVAJI GRANTED VILLAGE VALHE TO HIS DAUGHTER: -**

Once Mahadaji and Sakhubai went for prayer at the temple of family diety named Khanderao at Jejuri. On the way Mahadaji saw a beautiful village of Vahle. He desired to have it in his *Jagirs*. On the day of Deepavali festival, he requested his father in law Shivaji to grant the beautiful village of Vahle.<sup>40</sup> Shivaji as a festival gift ordered his Amaldar, an official to transfer this village in the name of his son-in-law. Thus the village of Vahle was transferred the *Farman* (Takid Patra) issued by Shivaji to Hajrat Barkhoji Mukadam. It reads thus son-in-law of Shivaji received that grant of village Vallehe tahsil Purandar on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1657A.D.<sup>41</sup>

From the administrative reports of Palace of Phaltan I quote the following information about the events of the family thus, "Jagpalrao was succeeded by his son Mudhoji II (1630-1644A.D.) whose daughter Saibai was married to Shivaji the great. In 1644A.D. Mudhoji was killed by the King of Bijapur and his son Bajaji (1644A.D.-1674A.D.) was taken prisoner to Bijapur. There was converted to Mohammedanism by the king who gave his daughter in marriage to Bajaji as a price of the conversion after the death

of his wife the Bijapur Princess, Bajaji returned to Phaltan and was restored to his fathers state in 1651. After his return, Bajaji was reconverted to Hinduism mainly through the efforts of Shivaji the Great and his illustrious mother Jeejabai. Shivaji then gave his daughter Sakhubai in marriage to Bajaji's son Mahadaji.<sup>42</sup>

#### **AFZAL KHAN AND BAJAJI NAIK NIMBALKAR: -**

In 1659A.D. Ali Adilshah II was ruling in Bijapur. He sent Afzal Khan against Shivaji, While on expedition Afzal Khan halted at Rahimatpur. He got imprisoned Bajaji from Phaltan. At his camp Afzal Khan was about to trample down Bajaji under the feet of an elephant for his rebellious activities against the Adilshahis. Meanwhile a Maratha noble Naikji Raje Pandhare interfered and requested Afzal khan to spare Bajaji's life in lieu of penalty of 60,000 hors(gold coins). Afzal Khan conceded the request.<sup>43</sup>

#### **MAHADAJI NAIK NIMBALKAR UNDER SHIVAJI: -**

Bajajirao II and his son Mahadaji helped Shivaji in all his political and administrative affairs. Particularly his son-in-law Mahadaji actively took part in all the expeditions of Shivaji in the Karnatak. Mahadaji was appointed to look after the administration of the Karnatak from his headquarter Bhaganagar. When Bajaji II died at Phaltan, Mahadaji wished to succeed his father. But Shivaji won over his son-in-law only to look after

Karnatic affairs; he would give him more *Jagirs* and position than of the state of Phaltan.<sup>44</sup> Thus in the state of Phaltan Mahadajis younger brother Vangoji succeeded and he looked after the administration of the state.<sup>45</sup>

Shivaji started efforts for making of Hindavi *swarajya* at the cost of Adilshahi and the Mughals territories. To curb his activities Aurangzeb sent Mirza Raja Jaysing against him. The Mughal commander defeated Shivaji and captured his fort of Purandhar. A treaty of understanding was reached on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1665A.D. which is known in history as Purandhar treaty. By the provisions of the treaty Shivaji's extension of *swarajya* was restricted. The Mughals included some of his territories from *swarajya* state. Shivaji agreed to visit the court of Aurangzeb in Agra. Aurangzeb imprisoned Shivaji in Agra. One day Shivaji managed his escape to the Deccan from the Mughal confinement. As per the treaty of Purandher whatever territories he had ceded to the Mughals, he managed its recapture. Simultaneously, Mahadaji attacked the Mughal territories of Poona. Mirza Raja Jaysing sent Tanaji Bhosale the Maratha noble of Mughal camp to curb his activities. Mahadaji faced the Mughals bravely, defeated and killed Tanaji Bhosale. He fell on the Mughal camps like a storm. His attack ultimately led Mughals to escape from Poona.<sup>46</sup>

**MAHADAJI NIMBALKAR SUPPORTER OF SAMBHAJI: -**

As Mahadaji made stronger the arms of Shivaji, similarly he extended his support to his son Sambhaji from time to time.

The widow of Shivaji, Soyarabai and the ministers of Ashtapradhan Mandal denied the claims of Sambhaji though he was the eldest son of Shivaji. He was seated on the Maratha throne. Just after some time Sambhaji defeated his opponents acquired the Maratha throne for himself on the advise of Mahadaji Nimbalkar, Ganoji Shirke and Harajiraje Mahadik(all supporters) had put off all restrictions on the Ministers of Asthapradhan Mandal thus they were freed.<sup>47</sup> Sambhaji retained Moropant the *mukhya pradhan* of the Mandal when he pleaded his innocence. On 16 January 1681 Sambhaji celebrated his coronation in the fort of Raigad.<sup>48</sup>

**MAHADAJI NAIK NIMBALKAR PRISONER OF AURANGZEB: -**

Prince Akabar II revolted against his father Aurangzeb. He took refuge with Sambhaji. With a view to punish his rebel son, the two Shia states of Bijapur and Golkonda and the Marathas Aurangzeb took an expedition in person. In 1681A.D. when the Mughal army besieged the fort of Golkonda. For the relief of the garrisoned Qutub Shahi army Mahadaji Naik Nimbalkar fought against the Mughals. At last the Mughals defeated Mahadaji(1683-86A.D.). Aurangzeb made him prisoner. He was sent to the



fort of Gwalior he lived there till his death. After his death his wife Sakhubai committed *sati*.<sup>49</sup>

#### **SUCCESSORS OF MAHADAJI NAIK NIMBALKAR: -**

Mahadaji survived by a son from a lady servant by name Rambhaji succeeded to his father. His sons Janoji and Rao Rambha gained great position and honour in the Asafjahi court in the latter years.<sup>50</sup>

#### **REIGN OF VANGOJI III (1676A.D.-93A.D.): -**

After the death of Bajaji his son Vangoji III ascended in 1676 and ruled upto 1693A.D. In his reign there was no event of any remark.

Mudhoji the brother of Mahadaji had a son by name Bajaji who had married Savitribai daughter of Chattarpati Rajaram.<sup>51</sup>

The Maratha Sardars Amrat bin Takhuji Nimbalkar, Mudhoji bin Jonoji and others serving under Aurangzeb joined Rajaram after killing of Sambhaji.

#### **RAJARAM'S TWO LETTERS TO MUDHOJI: -**

For some time Mudhoji Nimbalkar joined hands with the Mughals. When he left the Mughals, Rajaram wrote a letter to him that for restoration of *swarajya* the contribution of all the Maratha Sardars needed. I would take responsibility of defence of your state. So that you should rule your state in peace and prosperity.<sup>52</sup>

Shri. S.N. Joshi quoted two letters addressed to Mudhoji Nimbalkar in an article entitled 'Phaltan Nimbalkar'. These letters are printed in *Shiva Charitrya Sahitya Khand* Vol. IV.<sup>53</sup>

In the first letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1894A.D. Rajaram applauded Mudhoji Nimbalkar when he left services of the Mughals. His entry strengthened the case of the Maratha Swarajya. The Mughals were on the heads of Marathas, you should help commanders Santaji Ghorpade and Dhanaji Jadhav who were fighting against the Mughals. As soon we free our lands a *Farman* of confirmation of your Jagirs would be issued.<sup>54</sup>

In the second letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> August 1694A.D. Rajaram wrote to Mudhoji that all Maratha Sardars had joined hands together against the Mughals. He further states that Mudhoji delayed joining the Maratha confederate such delay might strengthen Mughal position. Such lapses from side of Maratha would humble freedom struggle.<sup>55</sup>

Mudhoji responded to the calls of Rajaram. He strengthened the Marathas against the Mughals. His efforts in all respect proved fruitful to Rajaram and Marathas in general.<sup>56</sup>

Rajaram ruled the Maratha state from 1689A.D. to 1700A.D. After his death his widow Tarabai took arms against the Mughals. All Maratha Sardars rallied around her. She ruled up to 1707A.D.<sup>57</sup>

### REIGN OF SHAHU CHATTERPATI AND NIMBALKAR: -

After the death of Aurangzeb on 20<sup>th</sup> February 1207A.D. the *Mughals* released Shahu Chatterpati who took reigns of the Maratha Government. The successor of Mudhoji and his son, Janoji were contemporary to Rajaram, Tarabai and Shahu Chatterpati their relations were cordial with Shahu.

Rajaram did not give *Jagirs* of Phaltan to Janhoji, the same he granted to Bajaji by issuing a *sanad*. For quite sometime Janoji remained silent. Janoji had good relation with Ghatage of Malwadi. In 1715A.D. at Malawadi there was a festival of *Ramnavami*. Janoji by blessing in the festival got a son in 1716A.D. He named him Mudhoji.<sup>58</sup>

Rajeshbai Shirke, relative of Shahu's wife had a daughter. Shahu managed her marriage with Mudhoji son of Janoji.

This marriage gave golden opportunity to Janoji by this he developed good relations. Taking advantage of the matrimonial alliance Janoji got transferred the Jagirs of Phaltan, which Bajaji was previously enjoying.<sup>59</sup>

### EXPEDITION OF JANJIRA ROLE FOR MUDHOJI NAIK NIMBALKAR:

In the expedition against the Siddhis of Janjira, Janoji supplied soldiers and strengthened the arms of Shahu and Angre .

The Siddhis of Janjira had stretched their arms in the coastal belt since the time of Shivaji, the Marathas efforted hard but could not humble them.

Brahmendra Swami head of Chiplun temple was neutral with the Siddhis and Marathas. Once the Siddhis attacked the temple dishonored woman folk and tortured the children. Then Swamy Brahmendra appealed to Shahu to attack the Siddhis.<sup>60</sup>

Shahu Chattrapati responded to the call of Swamy Brahmendra in concert with Bajirao I, Chimaji Appa, Kanoji Angre, and Mudhoji Naik Nimbalkar he attacked the Siddhis. Meanwhile the Siddhis had dissensions among themselves. The allied army of Marathas took advantage and scored a great victory against the Siddhis.<sup>61</sup>

Mudhoji had played a vital role in this expedition Shahu and Peshwa Bajirao I were pleased to notice bravery and co-operation of Mudhoji. After this victory Mudhoji sought permission of Shahu and Bajirao and returned to his capital Phaltan.<sup>62</sup>

#### **SHAHU CHATTARPATI GRANTED TWO VILLAGES CONCILIATED TO JANOJI NIMBALKAR:-**

Rajeshbai Sirkhe conciliated with Shahu Chattrapati because of her recommendation Shahu agreed and granted the two villages of Hol and Murum to Janoji Naik Nimbalkar. The Shahu issued *sanad* to the authorities

of the villages in consequence the villages were transferred and Janoji took the position.

In 1744A.D. Rajeshbai Shirke again pleaded before Chhattarpati Shahu to regrant the village of Vahle, which was earlier, granted to Sakhubai. Shahu gave his consent and the village was transferred.<sup>63</sup>

#### **MUDHOJI'S RELATION WITH BRAHMENDRA SWAMI: -**

Mudhoji maintained cordial relations with Pant Pradhan. Likewise he had spiritual Guru Brahmanand Swami. Hence he granted the village of Rawadi to Sansthan of Dhavadshi of Brahmendra Swami.<sup>64</sup>

#### **REIGN OF MUDHOJI III: - (1748A.D-1765A.D.)**

In 1748A.D. Janoji died and his son Mudhoji III succeeded to him. He ruled up to 1765A.D. His rule was progressive. He was issueless. Hence adopted Maloji who succeeded him in 1765A.D. The Raja of Satara Ramraja gave his daughter Ranubai in marriage to Maloji.<sup>65</sup> It is obviously clear that since the age of Shahaji Bhosale and Shivaji Naik Nimbalkar family maintained cordial relations. They stood by the Bhosale family in political and military affairs. Due to the efforts of Naik Nimbalkar family the cause of Maratha *swarajya* was made stronger. The Maratha territories expanded in all directions. It was really a vital role the members of Naik Nimbalkar family have played.

Though Bhosale family was closely related to Naik Nimbalkar family by matrimonial connections, however Shahaji and Shivaji the great had to fight with some members of this family for reasons unknown.<sup>66</sup>

#### **NAIK NIMBALKAR AND PESHWA:-**

In 1748A.D. Janoji Naik Nimbalkar died. He was succeeded by his son Mudhoji III . He ruled the state from 1748A.D. to 1765A.D. His wife named Sagunabai alias Aayeesahib belonged to the family of Ghatage Malawadikar.

The couple was issueless hence they adopted Maloji a son of Kushaji Naik. Janoji Naik Nimbalkar and Chattarpati Shahu died in same year 1748A.D. After the Death of Chattarpati Shahu there started a struggle for power in the Maratha state between his adopted son Ramraja and Maharani Tarabai. The evil effects of this struggle affected the whole of the Maratha state.

Peshwa Bajaji Bajirao alias Nanasaheb gathered all Maratha Sardars around him. He made Poona as the centre of Maratha political activity. Thus the Satara the capital of the Marathas lost its importance. The Nimbalkar of the Phaltan had very cordial relations with the Peshwa during the reign of Mudhoji III of Phaltan; there were no events of importance. In 1735A.D. Peshwa Bajirao I under took campaign against the Siddhis of Janjira. In this

expedition Mudhoji III excelled him self and played a vital role in defeating Siddhis. Thus Chattarpati Shahu and Peshwa Bajirao I recognized the services of Mudhoji and honoured him with robes.<sup>67</sup>

After Mudhoji III his adopted son Maloji succeeded. His succession was challenged by Soyaraji one of the members of Nimbalkar family. In this contest Sakharam Bapu Bokil an influential Sardar of *Maratha Mandal* helped the cause of Soyaraji. They pleaded before the Peshwa that Soyaraji had document for a real Heirship of the state. The Peshwa was convinced and sent an army against the state of Phaltan. In an encounter, in the beginning Sagunabai defeated the Peshwa army. However for the second time the Peshwa sent an army, which defeated Sagunabai.

After this victory the Peshwas restored the authority and *jagir* of Phaltan state to Soyaraji. Soyaraji entitled himself as Mudhoji bin Bajaji Naik Nimbalkar and carried the administration of the state in the same name.

The victorious army of the Peshwa ousted Sagunabai out of the Phaltan Palace. Before leaving she set all documents of the Palace ablaze. She lived at Terdoki in Balagat for six year.

In the court of new Peshwas Raghunath Bajirao, the Divan of Sagunabai by name Narsinharao Kaner pleaded before the Peshwa that Sourabaji was not the rightful adopted son of Mudhoji III even he sworn

before the diety in the temple of Khanderao that Maloji was the real adopted son. When convinced Peshwa Raghanathrao replaced Soyaraji and the reigns of government of Phaltan were given to Maloji. Sagunabai was honored and restored in the Palace with all respect. For this the Peshwa received the sum of Rs. One Lakh. Here after Maloji took part in all expeditions of the Peshwa. In his absence Sagunabai managed the affairs of administration.

Maloji Naik Nimbalkar joined with Haripant Phadake in the Karnatic expedition of the Peshwa. Haripant Phadake was big and high ranking a trusted noble of the Peshwa. Raghubadada for securing the seat of Peshwa murdered Narayanpantrao. He did not manage administration properly. Thus the nobles of Maratha Mandal ousted him in favour of Sawai Madhavrao son of Narayanrao and Gangabai (8<sup>th</sup> April 1774A.D.) The nobles of Mandal administered the Maratha state efficiently.

Haripant Phadake and Parashurambahu Patwardhan chased escaping Raghubadada. Meantime there started a quarrel between the *Barbhai* nobles and Raghubadada. Taking advantages from the dissensions of the Maratha nobles, the enemies of Maratha's Hyder Ali and others began creating troubles for the Maratha's.



Hyder Ali the ruler of Mysore helped Raghobadada in securing the seat of Peshwa they entered into a treaty of Kalyandurg in February 1774A.D.

Finding the Maratha nobles in dissension. Hyder Ali captured the Maratha region south of the Krishna River. He defeated in particular the Maratha Sardar Murarrao Ghrapade of Gutti (Andhra Pradesh)

Hyder Ali attacked and created troubles for the Maratha sardars of Karnatic region. He entered into an agreement with the Chattarpati, Karveerkar of Kolhapur. He attacked Ramdurgkar Bhave and Nawab of Savoonur, owing to their friendship with the Marathas.

During the siege of the fort of Gutti by Hyder Ali the Peshwa could not provide required assistance to his Sardar. Nevertheless Murarrao Ghorpades garrison fought bravely. Finally Hyder Ali was able to defeat to him. At the Poona the *Barbhai* sardars and East India Company entered into an agreement of Purandhar Treaty.

By this understandings of Purandhar the East India Company stopped helping Raghobadada. It led to peace and prosperity within Maratha region. Earlier Haripant Phadake and Parashuram Patwardhan were sent in chasing Raghoba. Now they were given the command of the Maratha army to stop the revenges of Hyder Ali in the Karnatic.<sup>68</sup>

Sagunabai of Phaltan sent her son Maloji Naik Nimbalkar with Haripant Phadake in Karnatic expedition. She managed the affairs of state in absence of her son. In the course of Karnatic campaign Maloji Naik Nimbalkar fell seriously ill. His Phadanvis Sadashiv Shyamrao gave message to Haripant Phadake that Maloji's days were numbered and pleaded before him that he would adopt Janrao Naik Nimbalkar (who was in the camp) as his successor. Sadashiv Shyamrao also informed that Sagunabai and Maloji earlier agreed for the adoption of Janrao. Maloji died in the camp. Thus Haripant Phadake sought approval of Nana Phadanvis for adoption of Janrao. With Haripant Phadake Janrao engaged in Karnatic campaign. Here at Phaltan Sagunabai administered the state. Still Janrao was in the said campaign the news reached that Sagunabai had passed away. Nana Phadanvis issued a *Farman* in 1795 A.D. confirming Janrao in authority of Phaltan.

Janrao got the loan of Rs. One Lakh from Bajaba Shirvalkar and paid to Nana Phadanvis as a *Nazar* some.<sup>69</sup> Since long Sagunabai alias Aayeesaheb administers the state of Phaltan in the absence of the real ruler. She was religious in nature and it was prime concern for her. She was remembered by her subjects as an efficient administrator and kind woman.<sup>70</sup>

Sagunabai was knowledgeable and highly respected lady in the Maratha community, Malojirao Naik Nimbalkar and Malojirao Ghorpade asked her by writing two letters. (No.171 dated 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1777A.D. and No. 792 dated 30<sup>th</sup> January 1777A.D.) found in Quarterly Journal of Bharat Itihas Sanshodhan Mandal, Poona that whether the Marathas should eat in the company of Mahadaji Shindia.

These above letters reveal that Sagunabai possessed high respect in the Maratha community even the Maratha nobles sought her advices in clarification of their doubts. Among the *Samadhis* of the Phaltan rulers Sagunabai's *Samadhi* is very famous as Ahilyabai Holkar in Holkar family, Anubai Ghorpade in Ichalkaranji family and Yesubai Daphale in Jath family. Sagunabai holds a prominent position in Nimbalkar family. The *Samadhi* of Sagunabai is held in respect and famous from the day of her death. Even to this day light is being burnt in perpetuity at her Samadhi. (Akhand Nanda Deep)

A native of Nimbalkar Sitaram bin Limbaji Lohar suffered due to incurable disease. He paid visit regularly and offered pray for a fortnight at *Samadhi* of Sagunabai. As a result of miracle, Sitaram got relief from the incurable disease. He became so much glad that he distributed sweet in all Ram Mandirs of Phaltan.

In the notice published on 24 October 1880A.D. by the Government of Phaltan state the above miracle at the *Samadhi* of Sagunabai is found mentioned. Sagunabai reigned the Phaltan state from 1766A.D. to 1791A.D. In her period she had contribution for all round development of the state.<sup>71</sup>

Sagunabai Nimbalkar (1766A.D. to 1791A.D.) was a women administrator and contemporary to Peshwa Madhavrao, Narayanrao and Peshwa Sawai Madhavrao. She was pious and able administrator like Dwarakabai Ghorpade of Kapshi, Yesubai Dafale of Jat, Anubai Ghorpade of Ichalkaranji and Jeejabai of Kolhapur.

After the death of Sagunabai in 1791A.D. Janrao Naik Nimbalkar took the affairs of the Government. In 1818A.D. the Maratha region passed into the hands of East India Company by the treaty of friendship signed on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1820A.D. <sup>72</sup>between Janrao Naik and East India Company. From then the rule of Phaltan state was continued in perpetuity up to 1948A.D. The rulers of Phaltan state kept friendly relation with the East India Company.

Janrao Naik Nimbalkar died on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1825A.D. As a result the Maharaja of Satara Pratapsinha confiscated property of the Phaltan state. During the Peshwa periods the rulers of Phaltan whole-heartedly took part in all political activities of the Maratha state and in the expeditions against the enemies in this period the state of Phaltan assumed great importance.

Peshwa Balaji Vishwanath Bajirao I Chattarpati Shahu, Peshwa Balaji, Bajirao alias Nanasaheb, Peshwa Madhavrao, Peshwa Sawai Madhavrao, Peshwa Bajirao II and Maratha nobles, Ramchandra Ganesh Kanade and Haripant Phadake all halted at Phaltan during their Campaigns.

#### **HALT OF MARATHA MILITIA AT PHALTAN: -**

The accounts cited in the previous pages state that the family of Naik Nimbalkar has rendered the yeoman services to the Maratha Raj.

Peshwa Bajirao I, Peshwa Bajaji Bajirao, Peshwa Madharao, Peshwa Sawai Madhavrao, Peshwa Bajirao II were the Maratha stalwarts. Under them the rulers of the Phaltan state took part shoulder to shoulder in all Maratha expeditions in the north and the south. It is because of the co-ordination and help of Maratha Sardars like the Nimbalkars of Phaltan, the Maratha state expanded in all directions. It is because of the activeness and positive role of its rulers the state of Phaltan and its capital assumed importance in those days.

Whenever the Peshwa when advanced towards Karnatic region for conquests halted at Phaltan on all the occasions

**CHATTARPATI SHAHUS STAY AT PHALTAN STATE: -****(1708A.D. to 1748A.D.)**

After the death of Shivaji the Great, Aurangzeb, the Mughal Emperor descended in the Deccan for the capture of two Kingdoms of Bijapur and Golkonda and the Maratha power. At that time the son of Shivaji, Sambhaji was managing the Maratha state. In his campaigns against the Marathas Aurangzeb caught Sambhaji later on he was executed. Then Aurangzeb captured the fort of Raigad, which served as the capital of Shivaji. He made Sambhaji's wife Yesubai and son Shahu as prisoners. They were in the Mughals captivity through out the Mughal campaigns in the Deccan.

Chattarpati Rajaram and Maharani Tarabai faced the Mughals on slaught bravely. Aurangzeb could not subdue the powers of Marathas completely. He died in desperation on 20<sup>th</sup> February 1707A.D.. On the advice of Zulfikar Khan the Mughal noble, Azimshah Alam Bahadur I released Shahu at Burhanpur. After his release from the confinement of the Mughals Shahu ascended the Maratha throne at Satara on 12<sup>th</sup> January 1708A.D.

Tarabai opposed his accession on the Maratha throne. Nevertheless the Maratha Sardars helped the cause of Shahu and they recognized him as the rightful heir of Shivaji.

During his reign Shahu efforted hard for regaining the lost regions from the Mughals. In this act Bajaji Vishawanath attempted restlessly. In his campaigns against the Mughal for capture of lost territories, Chattarpati Shahu for the first time entered the Phaltan state and halted at Salpe. Earlier he stayed at Valhe ,Jejuri and Saswad.<sup>73</sup>

Pratapsingh Bhosale was the Maratha ruler of Tanjore. The Nawab of Arcot Chanda saheb attacked Tanjore for relief of Pratapsingh Bhosale Shahu took the command personally and started Journey. While going Shahu halted at Phaltan from 16 to 17 December 1739A.D.<sup>74</sup>Shahu returned from Karnatic and he sent Raghuji Bhosale and Fatehsingh Bhosale for helping Pratapsingh Bhosale for helping in Tanjore.Shahu visited Phaltan state for third time. He stayed at Kuravali and Hingangaon from 23 to 25 march 1741A.D.<sup>75</sup> For the fourth time Shahu visited Phaltan state. He stayed at Tavadi from 27 to 29 April 1741A.D.<sup>76</sup>From above accounts it is clear that during his reign Shahu Maharaj visited and stayed at many villages in the state of Phaltan.

#### **PESHWA BALAJI VISHAWANATH'S STAY IN PHALTAN STATE:-**

**(1713A.D to 1720A.D.)**

After the release of Shahu Tarabai challenged him. Balaji Vishwanath with a view to obtain *farmans* from the Mughal Emperor regarding the *Swarajya* and real heirship of the Maratha state proceed to Delhi. After success of his mission he returned to Satara with documents while going back to Saswad the Peshwa came to *Tadavale* in the state of Phaltan and stayed there for some time on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1719A.D.<sup>77</sup>

**PESHWA BAJIRAO'S (I) STAY AT PHALTAN:-(1720A.D. to 1740A.D.)**

After the death of Peshwa Balaji Vishwanath on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1720A.D. his son Bajirao I succeeded to the Peshwaship on 17 April 1720A.D. in the Maratha state. The foremost aim of the new Peshwa was to gain control of the territories of the *swarajya* of Maratha. These territories the Mughal had captured when the Maratha nobles were in desperate situation. He undertook a number of expedition for realising his aim of freeing the Marathas territories from the Mughals. He captured Baramati region from the Mughals. During this expedition the Peshwa stayed at Kambleshwar village in Phaltan state from 25 to 28 December 1725A.D. This was the first visit of Peshwa Bajirao I.<sup>78</sup>

As per the *farman* of the Mughal Emperor the Shahu sent Peshwa Bajirao for collection of *Chauth* from the whole of Deccan. Bajirao



collected *chautah* from Konkan, Nagothane, Bid, Shegaon and Supe. He paid visit to Shahu at Satara. While going back to Saswad he stayed at Vathar in the Phaltan state on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1727A.D.<sup>79</sup> This was the second visit of the Peshwa Bajirao I.

#### **FIRST EXPEDITION OF PESHWA BAJIRAO I IN KARNATIC:-**

Aurangzeb captured in the deccan the kingdoms of Bijapur and Golkonda. After fall of these ruling dynasties he undertook further campaigns in the south i.e. Karnatic. In a decade or so he was able to bring the Karnatic under his authority. After the death of Aurangzeb the Maratha penetrated into the Karnatic. Thus in this region the Mughal Maratha struggle began. In Karnatic region a new authority of Sadhullaha Khan was established as a Nawab of Arcot. Against this the block of Wodeyar of Shriranpatan(Mysore) Murarrao Ghorpade of Gutti and Bhosale of Tanjore had came into existence. These two forces bent on introducing their sway and administrative system in this region. For the help of the later block Shahu despatched Peshwa at the head of big force for Karnatic while on this Chitradurgs expedition. Bajirao I halted at Sangavi village in the Phaltan state on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1725A.D.<sup>80</sup> This was his third visit to Phaltan.

In concillation with Shahu for the north Indian expedition. The Peshwa sent his brother Chimajiappa. Bajirao and Shahu visited Tuljapur

shrine. On their way they halted at Taradgaon in Phaltan state on 27<sup>th</sup> October 1728A.D.<sup>81</sup> From Tuljapur the Peshwa proceeded in the north for strengthened the position of his brother. It was his fourth visit.

In the north Peshwa Bajirao defeated Muhammad Bangasha and took possession of the whole of Bundelkhand. After this success the Peshwa returned to the south. After meeting Shahu he visited Vathar in the state of Phaltan on 12 to 17 November 1729A.D.<sup>82</sup> It was his fifth visit.

Peshwa Bajirao demanded the Subhedhari of Malwa and Gujrat and collection of *Chautah* from these provinces. When the Mughal Emperor Muhammad Shah refused the Peshwa attacked Delhi. He looted in the festival of Ramnavami celebrated in Delhi. In Delhi he defeated the Mughal forces. On his way to the south he collected *chautah* from Jaipur, Odase, Jhansi. He reached poona on 17 July 1737A.D.

From Poona he reached Satara. He took orders from Shahu for an encounter against Nizam-u-mulk Asafshah in Bhopal. In this campaign he stayed at Phaltan from 22 to 24 March 1738A.D. It was last visit of the Peshwa.<sup>83</sup>

**PESHWA BALAJI BAJIRAO ALIAS NANASAHEB'S STAY IN  
PHALTAN STATE:- ( 1740A.D. to 1761A.D.)**

Peshwa Bajirao I died in 1740A.D. He was succeeded by his son Peshwa Balaji Bajirao alias Nanasaheb.

In 1748A.D. Asafjah Nizam-ul-Mulk died. For succession there started a war among his surviving heir apparants. On hearing the news of death of his father Nasir Jung left Delhi for Hyderabad. He was challenged by his nephew (son of the daughter of Nizam-ul-Mulk) Muzzafar Jung. In the succession war Nasirjang was killed. Mujafarjang assumed power in Nizam state. Peshwa Nanasaheb seeing the ripe time to humble the Nizam, together with his brother Sadashivraobhahu attacked Aurangabad and Burhanpur and took the possessions. Meanwhile Salabatjang killed Mujafarjang in Hyderabad. The new Nizam Salabatjang concluded treaty with the Peshwa Nanasaheb. By the provisions of the treaty he gave the possession of the territories yielding revenue of Rs. 17 lakhs. In addition he paid Rs. 2 Lakhs in cash. After signing this treaty he proceeded to Poona. While in journey he stayed from 20 to 21<sup>st</sup> April 1751A.D. at Asu and Sangavi in the state of Phaltan.<sup>84</sup>

For organization of Administration in the Karnatic the Peshwa sent Vishaji Krishna, Gopalrao Patwardhan Balwantrao Mehandale and others. In Karnatic the Nawab of Savoonur in league with other Nawabs began to capture the Karnatic region of the Marathas. He disturbed peace and

prosperity of the region. Murarrao Ghorpade of Gutti also joined Nawab of Savoonur. For the help of the Maratha Sardars in Karnatic Peshwa himself took the command and proceeded in the south. In this expedition he halted at Asu on 24th November 1755 A.D. in Phaltan state.<sup>85</sup>

In the Karnatic the Peshwa humbled the enemies of the Maratha. He concluded an agreement with the Nizam Salabatjung and with Nawab of Savoonur. He gave Peshwa half of his dominion. For administrative arrangement the Peshwa left Gopalrao Govind and Malharrao Raste in Karnatic. On his way to Poona the Peshwa halted at Sonvadi on 10<sup>th</sup> July 1756A.D.<sup>86</sup>

#### **PESHWA MADHAVRAO'S STAY IN PHALTAN STATE: -**

**(1761A.D. to 1772A.D.)**

After Peshwa Nanasaheb's death (23<sup>rd</sup> June 1761A.D.) his eldest son Madhavrao succeeded in his place. He did not pay his attention in the affairs of the North. He concentrated all Maratha and strengthened and sources for completely subduing the Karnatic region. Thus he undertook many expeditions in the south and his halts in Phaltan state were many. Meanwhile there was a rise of Hyder Ali in the south from Shrirangpattan he started his conquests. He captured the region of Karnatic, which was hither to under the

Marathas. His conquests extended his boundaries up to the southern bank of Krishna River.

To halt further conquests of Hyder Ali, Madhavrao Peshwa proceeded personally in the south. During his expedition the Peshwa halted at Hol from 22 to 31 January 1764A.D. in the state of Phaltan.<sup>87</sup> Hyder Ali humbled the Naiks of Chitradurg and others in the Karanatic region. He collected huge booty and bulk of revenue from the vanquished Naiks. To teach a lesson to Hyder Ali Madhavrao took another expedition in the south. This time also the Peshwa halted at Sonvadi in the state of Phaltan.<sup>88</sup> Madhavrao Peshwa captured all the lost territories of the Marathas from Hyder Ali. He took possessions of Chikbalapur, Gulbarga, Namgundal etc.

In 1766A.D. Peshwa Madhavrao advanced at the command of Maratha forces against Janoji Bhosale of Nagpur. The Peshwa defeated him and he was compelled to sign a treaty of Kolhapur. However Janoji Bhosale did not respect the provisions of the treaty turned rebel. Hence with the help of Nizam Ali of Hyderabad the Peshwa started his campaign against Janoji Bhosale on his way he halted at Kapadgaon and Vadjal in Phaltan state from 15 to 17 November 1768A.D. Then he completely defeated Janoji Bhosale of Nagpur.<sup>89</sup>

It took a long time for the defeat of Janoji by the Peshwa. Meantime in the Karnatic Hyder Ali recapture the Maratha territories. He collected a huge sum as war booty and an indemnity from the Marathas administrators.

For the fourth time Madhavrao undertook the expedition in Karnatic against Hyder Ali. Fearing wrath of the Peshwa, Hyder Ali fled in the forest. In his absence the Peshwa captured important strategic post of Hyder Ali. In the captured territories for administration the Peshwa appointed Trimbakrao Pethe and Gopalrao Patvardhan. After making administrative arrangement in the Karnatic region, the Peshwa returned to Poona via Ravadi in the state of Phaltan. His stay was on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1770A.D.<sup>90</sup> Again for making administrative arrangements the Peshwa proceeded to Karnatic from Poona. He reached Miraj. All of sudden his health deteriorated. He thought of retreating to Poona. On the way he halted at Nimbalak in the Phaltan state on 20<sup>th</sup> January 1771A.D.<sup>91</sup>

It is a point of note here that Madhavrao Peshwa halted at important places in the state of Phaltan state while going on almost all expeditions in the Karnatic against Hyder Ali.

**PESHWA BAJIRAO II'S HALT IN PHALTAN STATE:-(1796A.D. to 1818A.D.)**

After the death of Peshwa Madhavrao, Narayanrao succeeded. He was murdered by his son. Then Sawai Madhavrao succeeded . he too died on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1795A.D. Then on the masnad of Peshwaship Bajirao Raghunath ascended on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1796A.D. He had appointed people of his like for managing the Maratha state. He was responsible for the decline and ruin of the Marathas. During his reign the Maratha power diminished considerably. In 1818 the East India Company captured all the Maratha regions in India. Thus the great Maratha empire in India became the story of past.

Peshwa Bajirao during his reign undertook many expeditions in Maharashtra. While on expeditions he halted on number of occasions at many places in Phaltan state. He stayed from 28-10-1805 A.D., 7-7-1807 A.D., 4-8-1807 A.D., 18-10-1807 A.D., 26-6-1808 A.D., 23-7-1808 A.D., 23 to 31 October 1808 A.D., 18-7-1809 A.D., 31-9-1890 A.D., 16-6-1811 A.D., 20-7-1811 A.D., 14-7-1812 A.D., 7-8-1812 A.D., 3-7-1813 A.D., 22-6-1814 A.D., 9-7-1815 A.D., 5-8-1815 A.D., 27-7-1816 A.D. On the above dates specially Peshwa Bajirao II paid visit to Holy shrine of Pandharpur.<sup>92</sup>

### STAY OF RAMCHANDRA GANESH KANADE IN PHALTAN STATE: -

Ramchandra Ganesh Kanade was prominent Sardar of Marathas. After the battle of Panipat in 1761A.D. Ramchandra Ganesh Kanade strived hard in consolidating the Maratha Empire and for gaining the lost glory. The Peshwa humbled Hyder Ali due to proper help of Ramchandra Ganesh Kanade.

During the administrative management of *Barbhai*, Raghobadada isturbed their work, and peace of the Maratha empire. At this time the Chattarpati of Kolhapur attacked Ichalkaranjkar Ghorpade. He requested to the Peshwa for help against Chattarpati of Kolhapur. The queen of Ichalkaranjkar Ghorpade belonged to the family of the Peshwa. The Peshwa sent help to Ichalkaranji under his commander Ramchandra Ganesh Kanade. On his way he stayed at Tirakwadi in Phaltan state from 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> February 1776A.D.<sup>93</sup>

### STAY OF HARIPANT PHADAKE IN PHALTAN STATE: -

Haripant Phadake was an important noble of the Peshwa. During struggle between *Barabhai* and Raghobadada Haripant Phadake supported *Barabhai* and his help saved her. He also defeated Raghobadada.



Looking into advantage of confused situation in the court of the Peshwa Hyder Ali captured the Maratha possession in the south. The Peshwa sent his able noble and commander Haripant Phadake against Hyder Ali. While proceedings to the south on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1776A.D. Haripant stayed at Phaltan.<sup>94</sup>

**HARIPANT PHADAKE'S EXPEDITION AGAINST TIPU SULTAN: -  
(1791A.D. to 1792A.D.)**

Against Tipu Sultan the Marathas, Nizam and East India Company formed an alliance at Poona on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1790A.D. As per 6<sup>th</sup> provision of treaty the Peshwa sent Haripant Phadake against Tipu Sultan. He completely defeated Tipu. He returned to Poona after his recent success. At Nirthadi in Phaltan state he stayed on 5<sup>th</sup> may 1792A.D.<sup>95</sup>

To sum up. the family members of Phaltankar Nimbalkar played vital role in founding Maratha state by helping and supporting Shivaji's mission. Not only this, but during Shivaji's various expeditions they took active part with their forces and contingents. The old noble family had matrimonial alliances with the Bhosale, family right from Maloji Bhosale the grand father of Shivaji who had a wife named Saibai belonged to Nimbalkar family and in subsequent period Shivaji gave her beloved daughter in marriage to Mahadaji Nimbalkar.

During war of Maratha independence (1689A.D. to 1707A.D.) Phaltankar also rendered yeomen services to the Maratha cause and extended support and helps to Sambhaji Rajaram and Tarabai and also participated in many skirmishes and battles which were fought against mighty Mughal armies under Aurangzeb. After the death of Aurangzeb in 1707A.D. the political arena of Maratha history changed and Maratha power in 18<sup>th</sup> century became all Indian power under the Leadership of the Peshwa the Priminister of Chattapati fortunately. The first four Peshwa from Bajaji Vishwanath to Madhavrao Peshwa were great conquerors and they expanded the Maratha emperor in all directions. They undertook a number of expeditions in the North and the South. The Phaltankars always joined Peshwas expedition with their armies and it is interesting to note that Shahu, Balaji Vishwanath, Bajirao I, Nanasaheb, Madhavrao I whenever proceeded to the south halted at Phaltan or at villages adjoining to it and they received hospitality from Phaltankar *Jagirdars* , Not only this but other Maratha Sardars like Ramchandra Ganesh Kanade and Haripant Phadake made their camps at Phaltan many times. The last Peshwa Bajirao II also halted many times at Phaltan and received support from Nimbalkar family. During the later half of 19<sup>th</sup> century Sagunabai run the administration of Phaltan state successfully and she is regarded as the Ahilyabai of Phaltan. Thus the

contribution of Phaltan state in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century was vital and one has to study it carefully.

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- 86. Ibid P.319.
- 87. Ibid P. 320.
- 88. Ibid P.321.
- 89. Ibid P. 372.
- 90. Ibid P. 375.
- 91. Ibid P.442.
- 92. Ibid P.548.
- 93. Ibid P.556.
- 94. Ibid P.557.

**CHAPTER – III**

**PHALTAN STATE AND  
SATARA RAJ  
(1818 A.D. TO 1848 A.D.)**

### CHAPTER III

#### **PHALTAN STATE AND SATARA RAJ :-**

**(1818A.D. TO 1848 A.D.)**

In the previous chapter the vital role played by Nimbalkars of Phaltan during Maratha period has been assessed. Right from Shahaji to Bajirao II the Maratha Chattrapati, the Peshwa and the Sardars had good contacts with Royal family of Nimbalkar, who supported the cause of Maratha *Swarajya*. But unfortunately the year 1818A.D. was a turning point in the history of Marathas, in which year Maratha lost their independence and East India Company captured whole Maratha Raj.

To please and to pacify Maratha subject in 1818A.D. East India Company created new Satara Raj and Pratapsinh was installed as a new Maratha Chattrapati with limited territory and with limited powers. After 1818A.D. Pratapsinh was Chattrapati ruling from Satara was not an independent ruler but under the control of Britishers just like a vassal. Not only this but British administrators especially Elphinstone, the governor of Bombay shrewdly and cunningly created some six Satara feudatories namely Aundh, Bhore, Akkalkot, Phaltan, Jath and Wai under the control of Satara Chattrapati. By this act the position the Chattrapati was enhanced to some

extent Phaltankar Nimbalkar became one of the feudatories of Satara Raja under this new arrangement.

In this chapter an attempt has been made to study the agreement signed between the ruling East India Company and Naik Nimbalkars as well as agreement concluded between Pratapsinh, Satara Chattarpati and Naik Nimbalkar of Phaltan.

This chapter covers the History of Phaltan state from (1818A.D. to 1848A.D.) i.e. from the fall of Bajirao II to the abolition of Satara Raj by applying Doctrine of lapse by Lord Dalhousie, then governor General of India (1848A.D. to 1856A.D.)

#### **JANRAO NAIK NIMBALKAR: - (1791A.D. to 1825A.D.)**

He was adopted son of Malojirao III on Naik Nimbalkar (1774 A.D. to 1777A.D.). Maloji now and then took part in expeditions organized by the Peshwa. In his absence Sagunabai looked after affairs of the Phaltan Government. She was wife of the Mudhoji (1748 A.D. to 1765 A.D.). She had sent Malojirao Naik Nimbalkar in the expedition of Karnatic with Haripant Phadake.<sup>1</sup> During the expedition Maloji fell sick seriously. Sadashivpant had discussion with Haripant Phadake that once Sagunabai had talked about adoption of Janrao Naik Nimbalkar son of Shivaji Naik Nimbalkar. The ceremony of adoption was postponed due to necessity of

Karnatic expedition. Sagunabai decided for adoption ceremony only after expedition of Karnatic would be completed. There was no hope of Malojis survival therefore Sadashivpant insisted on Haripant that a person to be adopted was in the Maratha camp. If Haripant would mind the adoption ceremony could be conducted before the eyes of dying Maloji. When all Sardars agreed Parashurambhau Patwardhan called Janrao. He put sugar water in the mouth of Maloji who breathed his last in the lap of his adopted son. Then Haripant Phadake wrote to Nana Phadanvis about the situation of adoption when Malojis recovery was standstill. Nana Phadanvis assented to the adoption. As usual Sagunabai carried the affairs of the state and Janrao Naik was busy in the Karnatic expedition.

On 24<sup>th</sup> October 1791A.D. Sagunabai passed away at that time Janrao was in the expedition of Paithan with Haripant Phadake.<sup>2</sup> When Janrao Naik Nimbalkar returned from Phaltan, Nana Phadanvis confirmed his accession and issued a *Farman* stating his ruling authority in the Phaltan state. For this act of kindness Janrao Naik Nimbalkar paid Rs. 1 lakh as *Peshkash* ( gift money) through Krishanaji Naik Thate to the Peshwa.

This amount of *Peshkash* Janrao received from Bajaba Shirvalkar as a loan. Janrao Naik Nimbalkar reigned from 1791A.D. to 1825A.D. In his tenure of authority there was no special event of importance. Nevertheless

he stood by the Peshwa in all expedition undertaken. He fought shoulder to shoulder with all the Maratha Sardars.

By 1818A.D. the East India Company completely overpowered the Marathas. The East India Company entered into an agreement on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1820A.D. by which it was agreed for the continuation of Phaltan state under Raja of Satara.

Janoji died in 1748A.D. and was succeeded by his son Mudhoji III (1748A.D.-1765A.D.).<sup>3</sup> On his death in 1765A.D. his wife Sagunabai alias Aisaheb, well known for her piety, purity and benevolent rule administered the state for a short time, but was deposed by the Peshwa Madhavrao Ballal and son Soyaraji was raised to the chief ship. In 1774A.D. Sagunabai adopted a son Maloji III and with the aid of the Peshwa Madhavrao Narayan alias Sawai Madhavrao regained control of the state Maloji III died in 1777A.D. He was succeeded by his adopted son Janrao (1791A.D. to 1825 A.D.) and Sagunabai once more administered the state till her death in 1791A.D. Janrao continued in the service of the Peshwas till their fall in 1818A.D. After which the state continued under the subordination of the Rajas of Satara but under the guarantee of the British government conferred by a treaty dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1820A.D. The treaty continues to be in force though the Satara Rajas have ceased to exist since 1849 A.D.<sup>4</sup>

In this chapter an attempt has been made to trace the history of the Phaltan state from 1818A.D. to 1853A.D. and the relations of Nimbalkar with the Satara Raja and with the English. During this period

1. Janrao Naik Nimbalkar (1791 A.D. to 1825 A.D.)
2. Bajajee Naik Nimbalkar (1827 A.D. to 1828 A.D.) and
3. Sahebjee Bai (1825 A.D. to 1853 A.D) ruled the state of  
Phaltan

#### **INSTALLATION OF RAJA PRATAPSIKH AT SATARA AND THE PHALTAN STATE: -**

After the death of Shahu I in 1749A.D. the Chattrapati of Satara not only became a nonentity in Maratha politics, but also was gradually reduced to the position of a prisoner in the hands of the Peshwa. The only function that was left to the Chattrapati was to bestow the official robes of the Peshwaship whenever a new Peshwa succeeded. Ramraja successor of Shahu died in 1777A.D. after adopting Vithoji the eldest son of Trimbakji Bhosale of Wavi as his heir who received the name of Shahu II.<sup>5</sup>

King Shahu II had three sons from his Rani Anandibai Maisaheb viz. Pratapsinh Baba (born on 18<sup>th</sup> January 1793A.D.), Ramchandra Bhausaheb (born in 1795A.D.) and Shahaji Appasaheb (born in 1802A.D.). Elphinstone gives a high compliment to this lady in describing her as "An intelligent lady,



a woman of talent and addresses, possessing good manners and good quantities”.

King Shahu II died on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1808A.D. and was succeeded by Pratapsinh Peshwa Bajirao II had never treated kindly these members of the Royal family.<sup>6</sup>

Pratapsinh was crowned soon after his father's death and began his career of Chattarpati under the guidance of his mother. They failed to win the good graces of the Peshwa and to have the rigor of their life softened. The murder of Gangadhar Shastri (20<sup>th</sup> July 1815A.D.) sealed the state of the Maratha state and every man of position began look to his own safety. Pratapsinh and his mother made secret approaches to the resident of Poona requesting his help against Bajirao's wicked plans.<sup>7</sup> When Bajirao opened war with the British, he removed the Chattarpati with his family from Satara and secured them in the lonely fort of Vasota.

Bajirao II in his running flight took the Chattarpati with him and later fell into British hands after the battle of Ashti on 19<sup>th</sup> February 1818A.D. At Ashti Babu Gokhale was overtaken by General Smith and was killed in a stiff action on 19<sup>th</sup> February 1818A.D.<sup>8</sup> This may be said to have been the last severe engagement of the war. Since with the death of his faithful commander the Peshwa lost all hopes of recovering his position and his

*Jagirdars* too had come to the same conclusion. Therefore after this battle they submitted and sent their respective *Vakils* to Munro asking for the agreement. The greatest irony was that the *Chattarpati* himself joined the British. Thus the King of the Maratha state himself betrayed the cause of the nation.<sup>9</sup>

The battle of Ashti brought the entire country of the Peshwa under the control of the British. Elphinstone decided to make a beginning of his work of settlement. He wrote to his government declaring his intention of issuing a proclamation in the name of the *Chattarpati* of having ousted *Bajirao II* from Peshwaship conquering his territories and of founding a new sovereignty for the Raja of Satara. He was formally installed to the throne on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1818 A.D. and a proclamation was issued in his name.<sup>10</sup>

After the fall of *Bajirao II* Elphinstone was appointed as the commissioner of the Deccan and he started the work of settlement of the newly conquered territory.

Elphinstone also settled the privileges of those *Jagirdars* who held their estates from the Raja of Satara. A fresh agreement was signed with the *Jagirdars* of Aundh, Bhor, Akkalkot, Phaltan, Jath and Wai who chose to remain with the Raja of Satara.

A treaty between Pratapsinh and the British was signed on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1819A.D.<sup>11</sup> It contained eleven articles by this treaty the Phaltan state was put under the Satara Raj and Nimbalkar became the Jagirdars of Satara along with other five jagirdars to enhance the status of Chattarpati.

By the 7<sup>th</sup> Article of the Satara treaty of 1819A.D. the possessions of the *Jagirdars* within the territory of the Raja of Satara were guaranteed by the British government who engaged to secure that the *Jagirdars* should perform the service they owed to the Raja, according to established custom. The jagirdar thus guarantees were the Raja of Akkalkot, the pant Pratinidhi, the Daphale, the Nimbalkar and Shaikh Mirza of Wai. the tenures of these chiefs were held to date from the period when their agreements were made with the British government and not from the date of the grants made by the Raja of Satara.<sup>12</sup>

#### ARTICLE 7<sup>th</sup> RUNS AS FOLLOWS

“ The possessions of the Jagirdars within his highness territory are to be under the guarantee of the British government which on the other hand engages to secure their performing the service which they owe to his Highness according to established custom.<sup>13</sup>

The possessions of the raja of Akkalkot, the Pant Sachiv, the pant Pratinidhi, the jagir of the Daphales in the Pargana of Jath, the *Jagir* of

Janrao Naik Nimbalkar in the Pargana of Phaltan and the *Jagirs* of Shaik Mira Waikar were put under the Chattarpatis of Satara.” Thus from 1818A.D. onwards the Phaltan *Jagir* was put under the control of Satara Chattarpati by the Britishers.

#### **CLASSIFICATIONS OF JAGIRDARS: -**

Grant Duff classified Maratha Jagirdars into three grades and it is important and interesting to note here that the Nimbalkar of Phaltan was designated as the first class Maratha Sardars. It indicates their historical importance. The account furnished by Grant Duff is as follow: “ Certain Jagirdars whom we shall designate of the first class, were the old Mankurees, or native chiefs of the country whom the reader has it in his power to trace from the earliest history of Maharashtra, such as Nimbalkars of Phaltan, the Daphales of Jath the Ghorpades of Mudhol etc. others in the second class were the old aristocracy of Shivaji and his descendents , such as the Purdhans , the Pritee Needhi, Angira and the Raja of Akkalkot, a third class was that which was raised by the Peshwas.”<sup>14</sup>

#### **PHALTAN STATE IN 1819 A.D.: -**

On 17<sup>th</sup> August 1819A.D. James Grant Duff who was the first resident of Satara writes the following accounts about Janrao Naik Nimbalkar’s activities with other Maratha Sardars as follows :-

“Janrao Naik Nimbalkar has been carrying on a correspondence with some of his connections at Siddhis court and also with the Nimbalkar. The subject of his communications as far has been discovered is of an innocent character but as their holding any such intercourse at all is strictly forbidden by the terms of their agreement with government, both Nimbalkar and Appa Dessae have been seriously warned to discontinue such irregularities and the former has given security for his future good behavior.”<sup>15</sup>

**TREATY BETWEEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND NAIK NIMBALKAR (22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 1820 A.D.): -**

When the work of settlement of newly conquered territory was going on by the Britishers from 1818 A.D., Janrao Naik Nimbalkar was the head of the Phaltan state, which was placed under Satara Raj by the Britishers. Therefore an agreement was signed between the Nimbalkars and the British government on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1820 A.D. by which the rights and their position and other things of the Nimbalkar were fixed by the British. This agreement was a landmark in the history of the Phaltan state because henceforth the British directly interfered with the affairs of the Phaltan state from time to time whenever there was necessity. Therefore it is worthwhile to see the articles of this agreement in origin. This agreement consisted of 12 articles by which future course of History stood.

articles of this agreement in origin. This agreement consisted of 12 articles by which future course of History stood.

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE NIMBALKAR DATED 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 1820A.D.: -**

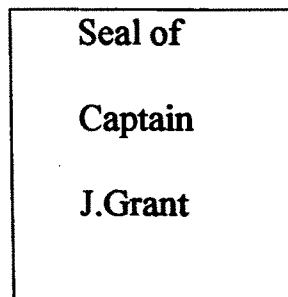
Terms fixed by captain James Grant Sahib Bahadoor on the part of the Honorable Company Bahadoor for Rao Saheb Meherban JanRao Naik Nimbalkar Deshmukh of Phaltan by which the Pargana of Phaltan is made over to him as he enjoyed the same formally in personal and military *jagir*.

This district along with the rest of the country having come into the possession of the British government, it is now freely bestowed as a military *jagir* in consideration of the antiquity and respectability of the family; but as according to the terms of the treaty concluded with his Highness the Raja of Satara, this *jagir* is within the limits of his territory, therefore Janrao Naik Nimbalkar is to be considered a *Jagirdars* of his Highness Government but under the guarantee of the British government.

Aitchison gives the following information about the Nimbalkar family  
 “ The chief of Phaltan styled Nimbalkar belongs to an ancient family. They long held the district of Phaltan under the Mohammedan rulers of Bijapur. Janrao with whom the British government formed an engagement (No. LXIII) is died at a very advanced age in 1825A.D.”<sup>16</sup> The following articles

No.LXIII

“ AGREEMENT between the HONOURABLE EAST INDIA COMPANY and the DESHMOOK of PHULTUN, commonly called NIMBALKAUR, dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1820A.D.



TERMS fixed by CAPTAIN JAMES GRANT SAHIB BAHADOOR on the part of the HONOURABLE COMPANY for RAO SAHIB MEHERBAN JAN RAO NAIK NIMBALKUR, DESHMOOK of PHULTUN by which the PERGUNNAH of PHULTUN is made over to him, as he enjoyed the same formerly in personal and military *jagir*.

This district along with the rest of the country, having come into the possession of the British government, it is now freely bestowed as a military *jagir* in consideration of the antiquity and respectability of the family; but as, according to the terms of the Treaty concluded with His territory, therefore Jan Rao Naik Nimbalkar is to be considered a *jagirdar* of His highness's government, but under the guarantee of the British Government.

The following articles are agreed to on the part of the British Government and Jan Rao Naik: -

#### **ARTICLE 1**

The Phultun pergunnah having been possessed up to the war as a personal and military allowance, in like manner it is now restored and confirmed. During the Government of the Peshwa, the contingent was fixed at three hundred and fifty (350) horse, but in consequence of the country not being in a flourishing state, service to the full amount of this number was not insisted upon.

That Jan Rao Naik may live in affluence and comfort, and also be enabled to keep up his contingent in the most complete state of equipment and readiness for the service, government have fixed the amount of it at ninety (90) horse of which number seventy-five (75) must always remain in the service of his Highness the Rajah of Satara, and the remaining fifteen (15) with the Naik.

#### **ARTICLE 2**

The horses and men forming the contingent are to be good, the horses of the value of from Rupees 300 to 400, and to be always kept in the service of His Highness's government. Wherever their services may be required they are to proceed without any delay or remonstrance. They are to be



mustered whenever so ordered, and should there be any of the number deficient, such deficiency must be made good at the annual rate of Rupees 300 for each horse, calculated from the period at which the former muster took place; but previous to enforcing the demand His Highness's government will make a representation of the circumstances and obtain the concurrence of the British Government.

### **ARTICLE 3**

In the event of the contingent being employed in war, under a requisition from the British Government, should any horses or men in consequence be killed or wounded, it is to be clearly understood that nothing in the way of an equivalent shall be paid by His Highness's government. Risks and casualties of all kinds, including the furnishing of ammunition, are included in the allowance.

**ARTICLE 4**

The whole expense of managing the *jagir* is to be defrayed without any reference to what is incurred by keeping up the horse. The territories of the British Government and of His Highness being situated close to the *jagir*, in the event of any disturbance-taking place, on the requisition of the *mamlatdars* of either of the Governments, aid must be furnished by a ready co-operation with all the disposable police of the *jagir*.

**ARTICLE 5**

Whatever *inam* villages, *wuttuns*, etc., have hitherto belonged to the Naik shall be continued to him in the territory of His Highness and all items of revenue of His Highness, which lie within the district of the Naik, shall be paid to his Highness's government. Within the *jagir* territory all *doomalla* villages, *wurshasun*, *dhurmadao*, *dewasthan*, *rozinder*, *khrayt*, *nemnook*, *daruk*, and such like payments, must be continued as they are at this time. All persons having possessions on government grants are not to be interfered with; such like payments must be continued as they are at this time. All persons having possessions on government grants are not to be interfered with; such interruptions as might exist from temporary causes at the time you received charge (from the British Government) are to be examined and

the claims justly settled. You will be careful that no just cause of complaint is brought forward against you on such points.

In cases where any of the above mentioned possessors of inheritance or allowances shall behave improperly, it will be necessary to acquaint the Agent of the British Government with the particulars, who, in conjunction with His Highness's government, will intimate what course is to be pursued, either in respect to punishment or resumption. Should persons holding such inheritance or allowance raise or excite any disturbance, or commit any offences against the peace of the public, or should persons possessed of such rights die without heirs, you will fully investigate the matter, and state what may appear really just, when His Highness's government with the advice of the Agent of the British Government will send such orders as may seem fit, and which must be conformed to.

#### ARTICLE 6

That the subjects of the *jagir* territory may have protection, justice must be properly administered, and a good police upheld to detect theft and to suppress gang robberies. If this is not attended to, and the country be without justice, so that people are obliged to complain, the government of His Highness, with the advice and assistance of the Agent of the British Government, having understood the matter, will decide on such subjects, and

their decisions must be attended to; and will further in regard to such decisions will not being attended to, so that the country may become in a state of misgovernment, and robberies and other crimes of very frequent occurrence, then whatever appears to be proper measures shall be suggested by the Agent of the British Government, and corresponding arrangements will be made by His Highness's government.

#### **ARTICLE 7**

Without orders from government no extra troops are to be levied, and none assembled for the purpose of making war on any one. In matters of family disputes concerning relationship and such like, no appeal to arms can Government, who will communicate with the Government of His Highness, and whatever decision is given must be reckoned binding.

#### **ARTICLE 8**

With the exception of those under the government of His Highness, no intercourse or correspondence by letter is to be entered into with such as Bajee Rao Sahib, or other Princes, Chieftains, commander, and others, nor is any aid or assistance by joining the troops of any one to be given. This article forms the basis of the present agreement and should what is above written be departed from, the *jagir* will not be continued.

**ARTICLE 9**

All persons having committed crimes within the *jagir* territory, and who may take shelter in the dominions of the British Government or of His Highness, shall be delivered over to Jan Rao Naik Nimbalkar, after information has been given to the agent of the British Government, and by him communicated to the British Government, or to the government of His Highness as the case may be; and in like manner, all criminals from the territories of the British Government or of His Highness shall be delivered up by Jan Rao Naik to their respective governments, and assistance must also be rendered to any public servants who may be sent for the apprehension of such persons.

**ARTICLE 10**

Whilst Jan Rao Naik shall continue fulfill the terms of his service in good faith, integrity, and fidelity, the *jagir* shall be held without any interruption from His Highness's government; on this point the British Government is the guarantee.

**ARTICLE 11**

All titles and customary forms of respect hitherto enjoyed by Jan Rao Naik shall be continued. All requests on part of the *jagirdar*, which may be

reasonable and proper, shall be granted, but such as are otherwise, shall not be agreed to.

## ARTICLE 12

As the *jagir* district adjoins the territory of His Highness, and consequently it may be necessary to effect exchanges of items of revenue or land, either for the purpose of distinctly defining the boundary, or on account of arrangements in the police, therefore on a representation from the government of His Highness, the agent of the British Government will arrange such exchanges as may be necessary, having previously ascertained that they will not be injurious to the interests of Jan Rao Naik, and such exchanges must be made accordingly.

Thus by this agreement Phaltan state went under the control of Satara Raja and Phaltan Pargana was considered as a personal and military jagir of Jan Rao Naik Nimbalkar. At the same time Phaltan ruler had to furnish 90 horses. This agreement was a turning point in the history of Phaltan state, because from 1818A.D. Phaltan lost its earlier prestige and all political matters and external affairs of state were controlled directed supervised by the political agent of the East India Company posted at Satara court and who was superior than Chattrapati himself. Grant Duff, the first political agent of Satara concluded this treaty with Jan Rao Naik Nimbalkar and Phaltan ruler

from this time had a power of internal administration only. This agreement is nothing but a treaty of reducing the prestige and power of an old Maratha state.

Subsequently another agreement consisted of 13 articles was signed between Raja Pratapsinh of Satara and Jan Rao Naik Nimbalkar on 5<sup>th</sup> July 1820A.D. The articles of this agreement are important and throw light on their relations. <sup>17</sup>

“AGREEMENT entered into in July 1820A.D. by HIS HIGHNESS the RAJAH of SATARA with the NIMBALKAR.”

<p>Large Seal of His Highness The Rajah of Satara.</p>
--

AGREEMENT on the part of HIS HIGHNESS the RAJAH of SATARA respecting RAJESHREE JAN RAO NAIK NIMBALKAR, DESHMOOK of the PHULTUN PERGUNNAH to whom these commands are issued.

The *pergunah* of Phultun having been for a long time past possessed by you as a personal and military *jagir* the British Government, therefore, have in their liberality freely bestowed and restored the same to you

according to terms fixed by Captain James Grant Bahadoor on their part.

The country of the *jagir* having come within the limits of the territory of the Hoozoor, by the Treaty with the British Government, it has accordingly been placed under it, and an agreement on the part of the British Government has been made and delivered to you, which has been approved of by the circar; and for the purpose of confirming you in the above mentioned *jagir*, the Hoozoor has determined as follows: -

#### ARTICLE 1

The *pergunah* of Phultun is to be held as a personal and military *jagir*, on condition of furnishing ninety (90) horse, seventy-five (75) of which, completely equipped, and the horses good, are always to be kept in the service of the Hoozoor and the remaining fifteen (15) to remain with you.

#### ARTICLE 2

The horses and men forming the contingent are to be good, the horses at the value of from Rupees 300 to 400, and to be always kept ready in the service of his Highness's government. Wherever their services may be required they are to proceed without any delay or remonstrance. They are to be mustered whenever so ordered, and should there be any of the number deficient, such deficiency must be made good at the annual rate of Rupees 300 for each horse, calculated from the period at which the former muster



took place; but previous to enforcing the demand, His Highness's government will make a representation of the circumstances and obtain the concurrence of the Agent of the British Government.

### ARTICLE 3

In the event of the contingent being employed in war, under a requisition from the British Government, should any horses or men in consequence be killed or wounded, it is to be clearly understood that nothing in the way of an equivalent shall be paid by His Highness's government. Risks and casualties of all kinds, including the furnishing of ammunition, are included in the allowance.

### ARTICLE 4

The whole expense of managing the *jagir* is to be defrayed without any reference to what is incurred by keeping up the horse. The territories of the British Government and of His Highness being situated close to the *jagir*, in the event of any disturbance taking place on the requisition of the *Mamlatdars* of the government add must be furnished by a ready co-operation with all the disposable police of the *jagir*.

### ARTICLE 5

Whatever *inam* villages, *wuttuns*, etc., have hitherto belonged to the Naik shall be continued to him in the territory of His Highness; and all items

of revenue of His Highness which lie within the district of the Naik, shall be paid to His Highness's government. Within the *jagir* territory all *doomalla* villages, *wurshasun*, *dhurmadao*, *dewasthan*, *rozinder*, *khyrat*, *nemnook*, *daruk*, and such like payments must be continued as they are at this time. All persons having possessions on government grants are not to be interfered with; such interruptions as might exist from temporary causes at the time you received charge (from the British Government) are to be examined, and the claims justly settled. You will be careful that no just cause of complaint is brought forward against you on such points.

In cases where any of the above mentioned possessors of inheritance or allowance shall behave improperly, it will be necessary to acquaint the Agent of the British Government with the particulars, who in conjunction with His Highness's government, will intimate what course is to be pursued, either in respect to punishment or resumption. Should persons holding such inheritances or allowances raise or excite any disturbance, or commit any offences against the peace of the public, or should persons possessed of such rights die without heirs, you will fully investigate the matter and state what may appear really just, when His Highness's government, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, will send such orders as may seem fit, and which must be confirmed to.

**ARTICLE 6**

That the subjects of the *jagir* territory may have protection, justice must be properly administered, and a good police upheld to detect theft and to suppress gang robberies. If this is not attended to, and the country be without justice, so that people are obliged to complain, the government of His Highness, with the advice and assistance of the Agent of the British Government, having understood the matter, will decide on such subjects, and their decisions must be attended to. And further, in regard to such decision not being attended to, so that the country may become in a state of misgovernment and robberies and other crimes of very frequent occurrence, then whatever appears to be the proper measures shall be suggested by the agent of the British Government and corresponding arrangements will be made by His Highness's Government

**ARTICLE 7**

Without orders from government no extra troops are to be levied, and none assemble for the purpose of making war on anyone. In matters of family disputes concerning relationship and such like, no appeal to arms can be permitted, but the case is to be represented to the Agent of the British

Government, who will communicate with the government of His Highness, and whatever decision is given must be reckoned binding.

#### ARTICLE 8

With the exception of those under the Government of His Highness, no intercourse or correspondence by letter is to be entered into with such as Bajirao Sahib, or other Princes, Chieftains, Commanders and others nor is any aid or assistance by joining the troops of anyone to be given. This Article forms the basis of the present agreement and if what is above written be departed from, by the advice of the British Government, the *jagir* will not be continued.

#### ARTICLE 9

All persons having committed crimes within the *jagir* territory, and who may take shelter in the country of Hoozoor, shall be delivered over to you, after information has been given to the Agent of the British Government, and by him communicated to the British Government or of His Highness as the case may be; and in like manner all criminals from the territories of the British Government or of His Highness, shall be delivered up by Jan Rao Naik to their respective governments, and assistance must also be rendered to any public servants who may be sent for the apprehension of such persons.

**ARTICLE 10**

Whilst you shall continue to fulfill the terms of your service in good faith, integrity, and fidelity, the *jagir* shall be held without any interruption on the part of the Circar; on this point the British Government is your guarantee, which is agreed to by the Circar.

**ARTICLE 11**

All titles and customary forms of respect hitherto enjoyed by you shall be continued. All requests on your part, which may be reasonable and proper shall be granted, but such are otherwise shall not be agreed to.

**ARTICLE 12**

As the *jagir* district adjoins the territory of His Highness, and consequently it may be necessary to effect exchanges of items of revenue or land, either for the purpose of distinctly defining the boundary, or on account of arrangements in the police, therefore, on a representation from the government of His Highness, Agent of the British Government will arrange such exchanges as may be necessary, having previously ascertained that they will not be injurious to your interests, such exchanges must be made accordingly.

**ARTICLE 13**

You must appear in person every year at the festival of the *Dusserah* and also attend, whenever requested so to do, on all great occasions of ceremony and congratulation; and when His Highness with his establishment may proceed to any great distance, you must also be in personal attendance.”<sup>18</sup>

<p>Small Seal</p> <p>Of His High-</p> <p>ness the Ra-</p> <p>Jah of Satara.</p>
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By this second agreement the conditions and restriction were laid on ruler of Phaltan state. This is the supplement to the first agreement. The same condition and articles included in the earlier agreement were mentioned in this agreement. Finally Phaltan *jagirdar* should remain present in person at Satara at important festivals like Dasara etc.

**REIGN OF JANRAO NAIK NIMBALKAR:-**

R.D. Chokesy published some correspondence of Raja Pratapsinh and in that volume following are some references, which shed light on the

political and economic condition of Phaltan state during the reign of Janrao Naik Nimbalkar.

There is report in 1818 A.D. submitted by James Grant Duff, resident of Satara to M. Elphistone regarding the arrangement made for the collection of revenue and how the Satara country was divided for the purpose of collecting revenue.<sup>19</sup>

The following is account regarding Phaltan state, “ 5<sup>th</sup> Division Fultun Des. I regret to the state from the inability and negligence of Rungo Pant, the acting Mamledar. I have been disappointing in procuring the information I hoped to have been able to lay before you. The scraps of account he brought are useless indeed; he appears to be incapable of observing or communicating any useful knowledge. I ordered Abajee Nerhue to proceed immediately and take charge of the district directing Rungo Pant to come instantly to Satara.” This indicates that Grant Duff did not get up to date information of revenue from Phaltan state. Therefore he made arrangement of another officer named Abajee Nerhue. Grant Duff further writes that, “Janrao Naik Nimbalkar, the hereditary *jagirdar* of *Fultan Des*, used to collect the revenue by assembling all the heads of villages, and after ascertaining the quantity of land in cultivation, a gross assessment was fixed on the whole, the amount being apportioned, so much for himself, so much

for Devsthan etc. etc. according to established usage. The Patils, therefore assessed their respective villages as they thought proper and gave the *jagirdar* no further trouble. This plan of general assessment is, I believe, unusual if not unknown in the Maratha country except in the instance described.” This shows the method of collections revenue from each village by the Janrao Naik Nimbalkar, which was unusual. Lastly grant Duff concludes this accounts as follow: - “ I shall, hereafter, have the honor of transmitting an estimate of *Phaltan des*; in the meantime after deducting the *Kusha* and customs restored to Janrao, the remainder is guessed at half a lack of rupees.” <sup>20</sup>

But the contemporary source from Poona Archives furnishes different information about the revenue arrangement of which was prevail during the period of Janrao Naik Nimbalkar as follows,

“ Agriculture and trade flourished during his period. The resources of state improved considerably. Hence Janrao did not have any sort of financial difficulties. He was free from any burden of loans.” This information is sought from the report of 20<sup>th</sup> September 1823 A.D.” <sup>21</sup>



## **DEATH OF JANRAO NAIK NIMBALKAR (1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 1825 A.D.):-**

On 1<sup>st</sup> January 1825 A.D. Janrao Naik Nimbalkar died. During his reign he cultivated friendly relations with East India Company. As a result most of the residents like Grant Duff (1818 A.D. to 1822 A.D.), Col. Brigg (1824 A.D. to 1826 A.D.) paid visit to the state of Phaltan. In his ages the economic position of state was sound. Prosperity flourished in the state which led to the improvement of the resources of the state.<sup>22</sup>

Janrao witnessed the end of Maratha Raj in 1818 A.D. and adjusted with new British rule even though he was not happy with East India Companies approach to Phaltan state. He ruled Phaltan state in a transitional period and the prestige and dignity of Phaltan state reduced to some extent during this period.

## **ATTACHMENT OF PHALTAN STATE: -**

Janrao Naik Nimbalkar died on 1825 A.D. issueless. The Chattarpati of a Satara attached the state of Phaltan to Satara Raj. This information is cited in the administration report of Phaltan state as follows:-

“ On the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1825 A.D. on Janrao's death without an heir, the Jagir was attached by the Raja of Satara; but on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1827 A.D., Bajaji was allowed to succeed on payment of a *nazarana* or succession

felt of Rs.- 30,000. On the 17<sup>th</sup> 1828 A.D. on Bajaji's death the state was again attached by the Raja of Satara."<sup>23</sup>

**THE AFFAIRS OF NIMBALKAR JAGIR IN 1826 A.D.: -**

John Briggs, the second resident of Satara (1823 A.D. to 1826 A.D.) submitted his report to W. Newnham, secretary to the Government of Bombay on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1826 A.D. The subject matters are about the affairs of Nimbalkar *Jagir*. It runs as follows: -

“ Sir,

Adverting to a letter I lately received from the Persian secretary addressed by the Honorable Governor to His Highness the Raja of Satara, I have the honor to acquaint you that I took the advantage of His Highness paying me a private visit without ceremony on the 30<sup>th</sup> ultimo, the day after his arrival at his capital to deliver into his hands.

From the tenor that communication, and the message delivered by the Nursoo Jamdar, it might be imagined the Raja entertained some resentment against me for the share. I thought it my duty to take, in the transaction of the Nimbalkar estates but which from the unreserved manner in which His highness visited me could hardly be supposed to exist.

As His Highness did not, however, anticipate that his message would become known to me, he was somewhat embarrassed to explain the

necessity of employing a third person to procure a confirmation of the permission already given as far back as the 12<sup>th</sup> June last, to appoint whom he preferred to the Nimbalkar *Jagir* and which I had before assured him would still remain unaltered unless under some very peculiar circumstances- of this fact, however, he is now doubly convinced by the late letter of the Honorable the Governor and he will no doubt exercise his own unbiased judgment in coming to a decision.

I have thought it is necessary to trouble the Honorable Governor by sending him extracts from the diary of two long conferences I had on the subject.<sup>24</sup>

**ROLE OF SAHEBJI BAI ALAIS BAYASAHEB NAIK NIMBALKAR  
(1828 A.D. to 1853A.D): -**

Bajaji Naik II died in may 1828A.D. For the second time the Chattarpati of Satara attached the state of Phaltan to Satara Raj. At that time the widow of Janrao's named Sahebjibai alias Bayasaheb administrating the state of Phaltan. On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1841A.D. Sahebjibai sought permission of adoption of a Royal heir, for the Phaltan state on payment of Rs.30, 000 to Raja of Satara. She adopted a nephew of her husband. His name was Mahadaji. Later he was entitled as Mudhoji IV. In political crisis Sahebji Bai handled administration of the state perfectly.<sup>25</sup>

How the Chattarpati of Satara attached the state of Phaltan is cited in the annual report of Phaltan state is as follows:

“ On the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1825A.D. on Janrao's death without an heir the *jagir* was attached by the Raja of Satara but on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1827A.D., Bajaji was allowed to succession fee of Rs.- 30,000. On the 17<sup>th</sup> May 1828 A.D. On Bajaji's death, the state was again attached by the Raja of Satara. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1841 A.D. on payment of *nazarana* of Rs.-30,000. Janrao's widow Rani Sahebji bai alias Bayasaheb was allowed to adopt Mahadaji, the grandson of Janrao's brother. After his adoption Mahadaji was named Mudhoji. During his minority Sahebji Bai acted as regent and ably administered the state till her death in 1853 A.D.”

C. Ovens Resident of Satara (1837A.D.-1845A.D.) submitted annual report on the progress of the Satara state in the territories of the jagirdars to Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1844 A.D. The following is the accounts about Sahebji Bai Nimbalkars administration.<sup>26</sup>

“ The accompaniment No. 10 contains the estimated receipts and expenses of the Phaltan *jagir* for 1842/43A.D. This account is likewise satisfactory, as showing an increase in receipts over those of the last year of Rs.6,420. It also shows that out of these Rs. 26,948 have been appropriated to the payment of the debt. of this *Jagir*. During last year and under the

judicious management of Saibjeebai Nimbalkar, I confidently look forward to this debt being discharged in due course of time and to the improvement of this Principality in every respect.

In all my reports, I have had occasion to speak highly of the management of this lady, and I would venture to add on fact which I think examples the efficiency of her police, a Sowkar going from Poona to Kuludghee on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 1842 A.D. was robbed at Phaltan while putting up for the night there of property estimated at 5,733-4-9, the alarm was given, and the gang was followed up so closely, that although from superiority of numbers and after wounding several, one of the Police, they effected their escape-rupees 5136-12-9 the stolen property was recovered and restored to the owner. This, I think, speaks well for Saibjee Bai's Police arrangement and as she has introduced all reforms made at Satara by His Highness into her own Principality I feel gratified at bringing this lady to the favorable notice of Government."

The above passages show that Sahebji Bai's administration was efficient and she maintained law and order in her state well. She was able and capable woman administrator.

Phaltan state was put under Satara Raja from 1818 A.D. to 1839 A.D. and in 1839 A.D. Satara *jagirdars* put under direct control of the East India

Company. The following is account mentioned about these administrative changes.<sup>27</sup>

“ Similar Treaties were made in 1820 A.D. between the British Government and all the other Satara *jagirdars* and also between them and His Highness the Raja of Satara and these were in force until 1839 A.D. when by article 3<sup>rd</sup> of the supplemental treaty made with the present Raja under the date the 4<sup>th</sup> September 1839 A.D., these *jagirdars* were placed under the direct management and control of the British Government, their contingent and pecuniary payments as fixed by the engagements of 1820 A.D., being reserved to His Highness, and in this position matters now stand.”<sup>28</sup>

Further political Agent states that, “ The family of the Naiks of Phaltan is considered one of the most ancient in Maharashtra. Their designation of Nimbalkar is derived from the village called *Nimbalk*. The origin of their *Deshmookee* claims in Phaltan by the kings of Beejapoor before the middle of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The sister of Jugpal one of the most celebrated Naiks of Phaltan, who lived in the early part of the 17<sup>th</sup> century was grandmother of Sevajee, the founder of the Maratha Empire.

“ The name of the present *jagirdar* of Phaltan is Saibjee Bai Nimbalkar who holds it in right of her deceased husband Janrao Naik. She

has adopted a son from the original stock of this family who is called Moodhojee Naik. He is about six years of age. But he will not succeed to the *jagir* until his adoptive mother's death.

“ The *Jagir* consisting of 80 village lies on the south bank of the Neera river. Its revenue in 1842/43 A.D. was Rs. 74006 and its expenses rupees 72,754 , of which a considerable portion is set aside annually, for the payment of debts, in fulfillment of an engagement entered into, with the creditors by the Raja of Satara. But it pays no tribute to any neighboring state.

“ The soil is fertile producing *jowary*, *bajree*, wheat, gram etc. and the town of Phaltan is populous, and carries on a considerable inland trade. Its climate is drier than that of Satara, there being very little rain, and that generally at the end of the season. It has the Neera river to the north and the highroad from Poona to Pandharpur runs through the district.

Besides the contingent of 100 Horse above alluded to, the Naiks of Phaltan keep up 100 *Seebundees* and 100 *seth sundees* for revenue and police management here is the same as that in the Satara territory.” <sup>29</sup>The above passages indicate the revenue arrangement of Phaltan state under Sahebji Bai. It is interesting to note that there were 100 *seebundees* and 100

*sethbundees* were appointed by her to collect, Proper revenues from each village.

SahebjiBai alias Bayasaheb died in 1853 A.D. The East India Company took the reigns of Government in her hands, as Mudhoji was a minor. On 10<sup>th</sup> February 1860 A.D. British Government handed over authority of Phaltan state to Mudhojirao when he attained majority.

Thus history of Mudhojirao Naik Nimbalkar is highly remarkable. In the medieval ages Phaltan state acquired considerable political importance. Since its inception in 1277 A.D. to 1948 A.D., the Naiks of Phaltan contributed a lot for the Maratha region. Under the suzerainty of Mohammad Bin Tughluk the Bahamani, the Adilshahi, Shivaji the Great, the Peshwa, Raja of Satara and East India Company, The rulers rendered their service to the aforesaid heads with great sincerity and consciousness. Thus the Naiks of Nimbalkar were the important Sardars and they held key positions in the political and military affairs. For this region the matrimonial alliances were established between the Nimbalkar and Bhosale families.

In the last quarter of 18<sup>th</sup> century under Bajirao II the Marathas supremacy began to decline and in the first quarter of 19<sup>th</sup> century, we witness the downfall of the Marathas. In whole of India the British paramountcy was established. In Maharashtra region among 18 S.M.C.



states, the Phaltan state was one. In 1820A.D. under Raja of Satara the Phaltan state survived. In turn the East India Company handled the Satara Raj. Twice the Raja of Satara attached Phaltan state. In 1860A.D. when Mudhojirao became major he secured political privileges from 1860 A.D. a new era has began in the history of Phaltan state.

Meanwhile due to political disturbances in the great uprising of 1857 A.D. the British crown with a view to restore political triangularity in India took the reigns of Indian lands in its hands. Because of this change the Indian state breathed a sign of relief. At that time Mudhojirao acquired privilege as the Raja of Phaltan. He ruled up to 1916 A.D. In this period the state of Phaltan achieved all-round progress. It becomes unprecedented state. How these progressive developments took place, the information is furnished in ensuing chapters.

In nutshell briefly after the fall of Peshwa Bajirao II in 1818 A.D. the Phaltan state came under the control of East India Company. An agreement was concluded between Janrao Naik Nimbalkar, the ruler of Phaltan state and East India Company in 1820 A.D. The Phaltan ruler becomes one of the *jagirdars* of Satara Chattrapati from (1818 A.D. to 1848 A.D.). During this period Janrao Naik Nimbalkar (d.1825), Bajaji II (d.1828), Sahebji Bai alias Bayasaheb (d.1853) were the rulers of this state. During this period Phaltan

state was attached by Satara Maharaj in 1825 A.D. and 1828 A.D. This attachment lasted up to 1841 A.D. The Phaltan state from 1816 A.D. to 1853 A.D. witnessed ups and downs in its political position.

Political agents of Satara frequently paid visits to Phaltan state and expressed their satisfaction about the law and order and revenue arrangement in the state. Moreover these British residents paid glowing tributes to the administration of Sahebjibai who is regarded as the Aihilyabai of Phaltan. Unfortunately this period from 1818 A.D. to 1853 A.D. witnessed the downfall of Maratha Raj. In 1848 A.D. the East India Company confiscated Satara Raj, Under Lord Dalhousie by applying the doctrine of lapses. During this period no important events took place in the history of Phaltan state. But the adoption of Mudhojirao IV was a far-reaching effect on the History of Phaltan because Mudhoji ruled from 1860 A.D. to 1916 A.D. and a dawn of modernization of Phaltan state started in his period, which we are going to discuss in the subsequent Chapter.

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**CHAPTER – IV**

**SHRIMANT MUDHOJIRAO - IV  
ALIAS BAPUSAHEB MAHARAJ  
(1860 A.D. TO 1916 A.D.)**

**CHAPTER IV:**  
**SHRIMANT MUDHOJIRAO IV ALIAS BAPUSAHEB**  
**MAHARAJ**  
**(1860 A.D. to 1916 A.D.)**

In the last half of 19<sup>th</sup> century and first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, in state of Phaltan two rulers Shrimant Mudhojirao (1860 A.D. to 1916A.D.) and Shrimant Malojirao alias Nanasaheb (1916 A.D. to 1948 A.D.) ascended. In this the forth chapter the detailed information about the history of Mudhojirao IV alias Bapusaheb Naik Nimbalkar is furnished. Under him the state achieved its highest glory in political, social, economical, educational and cultural fields. In this chapter I humbly efforted to cite his contributions to various fields.

Under Mudhojirao IV the Phaltan state was modernized. For a considerable longer period he remained in power. Hence permanency in political authority caused peace and tranquility and it resulted in the all-round progress in the state. The state of the Phaltan was one of the progressive state of Phaltan in Bombay Presidency. In southern Maratha country this state served as model for welfare and modernization. Mudhojirao's rule was popular rule, referring to his love of art and architecture, evidenced by many beautiful buildings of his time in

this town. Special mention must be made of water works constructed in his times and of the spread of free education throughout the state.

#### **MINORITY AND ADOPTION OF MUDHOJIRAO: -**

Janojirao II administered the state of Phaltan from 1777 A.D. to 1825 A.D. In this period the Maratha supremacy under the Peshwa had completely diminished. Thereafter the East India Company entered into friendship treaties with existing states in Maharashtra. At that time the ruler of Phaltan was Janrao Naik, who signed this treaty with East India Company on 22th April 1820. In 1825 A.D. he passed away issueless. Thereafter his wife Sahebjibai managed the administration of state from 1828 A.D. to 1853 A.D.

Sahebjibai began searching for a suitable heir among her family relatives. She finally selected nephew of her husband Mahadaji as the next successor. Mahadaji was born on 5<sup>th</sup> November 1838 A.D. in poor circumstances. He was adopted on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 1841 A.D.<sup>1</sup> At the early age of 3, few perhaps know that it was by a strange incident that Mahadaji was to be adopted instead of his brother who was originally selected, but suddenly got seriously ill on the eve of the ceremony. The adopted son Mahadaji's name was changed in ceremony as Mudhoji. Since then he is known as Mudhoji IV.

It seems that the selection of the Mudhoji as the heir apparent might be by the divine order. By this divine blessing in disguise of Mudhoji the state of Phaltan



progressed by all means. He became the fortune maker of his subjects. As Mudhoji was a minor, Sahebji Bai as a regent mother ruled the state from 1841 A.D. to 1853 A.D., till Mudhoji attained the age of majority.<sup>2</sup> She had made a right choice in Mudhoji. He was farsighted ruler of Phaltan. He was sincere and duty bound.

#### **CEREMONY OF INVESTITURE (10th FEBRUARY 1860):-**

In 1853A.D. Sahebji bai died. Hence the East India Company owing to infancy of Mudhoji kept authority of government in its hands up to 1860 A.D. On the occasion of investiture ceremony many English officers of other states and nobles were present.<sup>3</sup> From the day of ceremony the new era has begun in the history of Phaltan and the dark period of the past had become standstill.

#### **CONDITION OF PHALTAN STATE- PRIOR TO MUDHOJIRAO: -**

In 1820A.D. the Raja of Phaltan signed the treaty of friendship with East India Company. From 1818 A.D. to 1860 A.D. the progress of the state was arrested. No special event of importance and welfare activities were undertaken because in this period the state was under the Raja of Satara and in turn he was under the East India Company. There was no independent exercise of authority by the ruler of Phaltan. Pleasing the two heads made problems and reforms in the state were not introduced. It was in 1848 A.D. the state of Satara lapsed and in 1860 A.D. when the ruler like Mudhoji IV assumed power, the state of Phaltan

became free and it progressed by all means. His investiture took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1860 A.D. The long regime followed lasted for full 56 years. It is one continuous story of righteous administration and acts of public utility.

#### **DIRECT ADMINISTRATION OF MUDHOJI IV: -**

By the Great uprising of 1857 A.D. the transfer of power took place from the East India Company to the British crown. The British crown looked for betterment of Indians and the states. Thus the period of progress and development had begun. A new political outlook was brought. Just after this uprising the queen of England Victoria addressed to the Rajas of Indian states in her "Declaration" that the British Government would not interfere in the domestic or internal affairs of the Indian Rajas and further it would protect the rights and the privileges of the erstwhile rulers. Her declaration and assurance created hopes for Indian Rajas. It encouraged Mudhoji IV atmost. He exercised his authority whole-heartedly and began to introduce progressive reforms in his state which finally proved very fruitful to his subjects.

**EDUCATIONAL REFORMS: -**

Though Lord Dalhousie introduced educational reforms in India by Charles Wood despatch in 1853 A.D. But it did not gear up in the presidency of Bombay. Hence no progress of education was noticed.

In Maratha states the age-old educational systems prevailed. Only the religious education assumed prime importance. In the year 1853 A.D. by the Wood's Despatch the East India Company introduced many reforms. Thus the new era in educational field of India had begun. Mudhojirao IV was directly influenced by the modern educational system of the British. He realized the Vitality of Modern education. Soon after assuming authority he bent to reform his state by education and always used to say, " Knowledge is Power ". He wanted to enlighten his people. He believed that education was the only torch by which the darkness of uncivilized life could be removed. An educated person could make his own progress and as well as of his surroundings. In short an educated man would be an asset to the whole community and state.

By education one can understand good and bad. He would differentiate just and unjust and guide well the future generation. Wherever the education prevails in that state progress takes place. The teacher of Mudhoji IV taught importance of education to him. For this reason he believed that unless all subjects did not understand the importance of education the development of state

could not be possible. Thus he developed his state educationally. He generously helped for the development of education. In 1876 A.D., in the state of Phaltan, 13 schools flourished with total students strength of 551.<sup>4</sup> For a person if it is not possible to receive higher education or complete his education at least he should acquire basic or fundamentals of knowledge of education.

In general all the basic needs of people were fulfilled in their villages itself. Hence they did not require to come out of their dens. Hence they could not realize the importance of education and instantly did not rush to receive education. Gradually they picked up and educated themselves. Because of cordial relations with British government Mudhojirao came to know vitality of education. He fully utilized the help of British Government and resources of his state for the educational progress in his state. In Administrative Reports of state published annually we get plenty of information that Mudhojirao IV strived hard for education. In the Annual Report of 1881 A.D. we find that, there exist 17 schools with attendance of 703 students. Annual Reports of 1885-86 of the Phaltan state gives information that total expenditure the year was Rs.-2982.<sup>5</sup> One new school was opened and the total number brought to 17. One English class was kept up in the school at Phaltan. The aggregate number of pupils was 767. The total expenditure on the education was Rs. 6228.”<sup>6</sup>

The Bombay Administrative Reports of 1886-87A.D. records that One new school was opened during the year and the English side of the Phaltan School separated from the vernacular side. The total number of schools was thus 19 as against 17 in 1885-86A.D. The aggregate attendance was from 767 in 1885-86A.D. to 743. The total expenditure on education amounts Rs. 4337. Education is still very backward in this state. There was one library at Phaltan state.”<sup>7</sup> 1887-88A.D., Annual Report of Phaltan state furnished the following information, “The total receipts from the educational case and school fees are as detailed in statement NO. VI is Rs. 4198-13-9 and expenditure amounted to Rs. 4290-15-2. The number of schools this year was the same as last year viz. 19 of these one is a first grade Anglo- vernacular school, one girl school and two Veda schools and 15 vernacular schools.”

Year	No of pupils	Average daily Attendance
1887-88	695	532
1886-87	743	596
Decrease	48	64

During the year both the Educational Inspector and the political Agent visited the Principal schools and were satisfied with the progress. The opinion recorded by the Inspector or runs thus –There is a school building at Phaltan. The

schools at other places are accommodated in *Dharamshalas* and *Chavaris* principally. As soon as funds admit of it, school building will be provided there also. There are six indigenous school containing 77 pupils. <sup>8</sup>

The Bombay Administrative Report year 1888-89 A.D. says, "The number of schools was 20 and the expenditure on education was Rs. 4279 or nearly the same as last year. There was an increase of 79 in the number of Pupils (774). There were seven unaided schools." <sup>9</sup>

The Administrative reports of Phaltan state for the Year 1889-90 of

The following table furnishes which show the number of school and boys attending were shown.

DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL	NO.OF PUPILS ON THE ROLL 31MARCH 1889	NO.OF PUPILS ON THE ROLL 31MARCH1890	DAILY AVERAGE ATTENDANCE
1.First Grade A.V. School Phaltan.	60	53	37.8
2.Marathi School Phaltan.	132	147	113.2
3.Girls School Phaltan.	30	29	24.8

4.Regveda School Phaltan.	25	5	4
5.Yajurveda School, Phaltan.	13	4	3
6.Aided School, Phaltan.	92	94	59.4
7.Wathar School	52	48	38.2
8.Aradgaon School	24	26	18
9.Tambve School	22	25	20.1
10.Saswad School	24	24	19.5
11.Hingangaon School	20	21	19.4
12.Nandal School	28	23	17.3
13.Taradgaon School	25	47	32.9
14.Widni School	42	22	25.5



JABRESHWAR TEMPLE



SHRIRAM TEMPLE

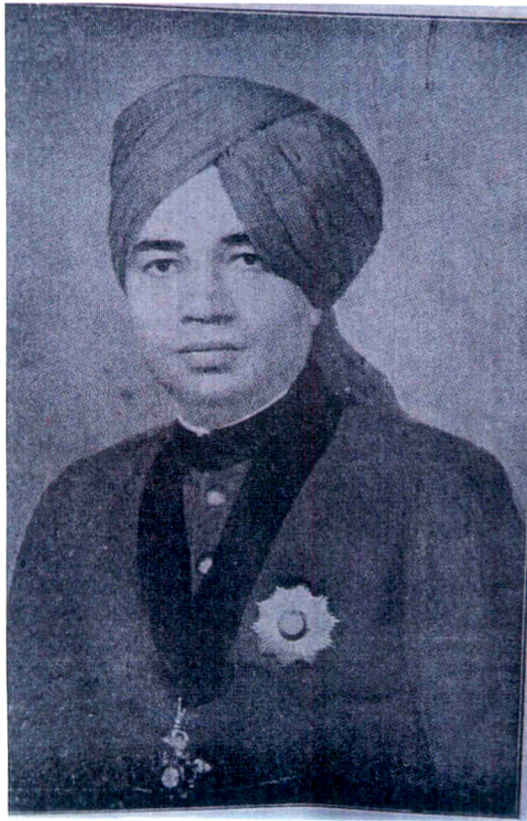


NAGESHWAR TEMPLE





SHRIMANT MUDHOJIRAO MAHARAJ



SHRIMANT MALOJI MAHARAJ



SHRIMANT SOU. LAXMIDEVI RANISAHEB



MUDHOJI MANMOHAN PALACE

15.Nimbalak School	28	28	22.5
16.Rajale School	25	18	14.6
17.Gokhali School	25	24	16.8
18.Pimprad School	32	30	19.2
19.Barad School	26	28	23
20.Nirgudi School	31	31	18 <sup>10</sup>

The following table furnishes which show the number of school and boys attending during the year 1890-91A.D.<sup>11</sup>

DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL	NO.OF PUPILS ON THE ROLL 31MARCH 1890	NO.OF PUPILS ON THE ROLL 31MARCH1891	DAILY AVERAGE ATTENDANCE
1.Anglo Verna- ular School, Phaltan	58	31	37.5

2.Marathi School Phaltan.	147	173	137.4
3.Girls School Phaltan.	29	35	17.4
4.Regveda School Phaltan.	5	7	7
5.Yajurveda School, Phaltan.	4	5	5
6.Aided School, Phaltan.	94	87	57.9
7.Wathar School	48	41	35.6
8.Aradgaon School	26	24	19.5
9.Tambve School	25	18	15.3
10.Saswad School	34	27	20.5
11.Hingangaon School	21	23	18.3
12.Nandal	23	24	17.4

School			
13. Taradgaon School	47	48	37.5
14. Widni School	22	29	23.9
15. Nimbalk School	28	26	21
16. Barad School	28	24	20
17. Gokhali School	24	24	18.7
18. Pimprad School	30	21	16
19. Nirgudi School	31	31	14.5
20. Rajale School	18	---	---
Total	727	718	540.4

In the first grade A.V. school at Phaltan five English standards are taught during the year under report two boys were sent up for the second class public service examination at Satara and both of them came out successful. Four boys sent to High School to prosecute their further studies. In the Marathi school at Phaltan 6 vernacular standard are taught. In the year of report two boys passed



the third class Public service Certificate examination at Satara. In other schools instruction is imported up to the 4<sup>th</sup> vernacular standard."

"The expenditure incurred on this establishment was Rs. 4631-5-3 against Rs. 4115-8-8 of the last year. The increase was due to the payment of arrears of pay and repairs to some school buildings. There are four Private schools in the state had attendance of 96 pupils. <sup>12</sup>The Administration Report of Bombay state during the year 1891-92A.D. states " There were 20 schools, an increase of one at which 720 boys were being educated against 718 in 1890-91A.D. Expenditure on education fell from Rs. 4631 to Rs. 4471. There was only one Private school with an attendance of 42 pupils. <sup>13</sup>

Bombay Administration Report for the Year 1892-93 states, " There were 21 schools in the state with 757 Pupils as against 20 schools with 720 Pupils last year. The expenditure on education was Rs.4410."<sup>14</sup> Bombay Administration Report for the Year 1893-94A.D. states, " Besides one Girls School and a first grade Anglo-Vernacular Schools there were 22 Vernacular Schools against 17 last Year. A large Building for an English school was erected outside the town of Phaltan at a cost of about Rs. 14000. The number of Pupils rose from 757 to 972. The cost of education fell from 4410 to Rs. 3974 but the decrease was only apparent as last years figure included items on account of construction and repairs, which were brought under a separate head of account. <sup>15</sup>

The annual Administrative Report of the Phaltan state year 1894-95A.D.

records the following numbers.

Sr.No.	Description of School	Numbers of Pupils June 1894		Numbers of Pupils June 1895		Daily Average	
		Boy	Girls	Boy	Girls	Boy	Girls
1.	High School.	59	---	77	---	52	---
2.	Vernacular boy School.	852	---	1040	31	896.1	---
3.	Girls School.	---	31	---	40	40	20.1
4.	Vedas School.	30	---	10	---	6	---
	Total	941	31	1127	71	854.1	20.1

There is an increase in the number of school and scholars. Three new schools were opened this year and one Vedic school was closed. There is only one separate girls school at Phaltan but in villages girls are taught along with boys. The number of girls has increased.

“The most noteworthy event under the head of Instruction is the opening of a High School at Phaltan. The first grade Anglo vernacular school named ‘Mudhoji English School’ has been as promised in the last years report raised to the status of Mudhoji High School. Two graduates one in arts and the other in

Agriculture have been employed and provision made for imparting tuition. Up to the matriculation or the University school final standards, scholarship have been offered to induce a large number of students and every number of attempt is being made to make the High School as popular as possible. In order to create a taste for education among the backward and lower castes their children are admitted free and Mahar and Mang and Ramoshi boys are seen in almost all the schools. The cost incurred this year exclusively on education amounted to Rs. 5136-13-1 against 3973-10-8 of the last year out of these Rs. 1608-9-10 are from the state funds Rs. 2535-4-3 from local funds and Rs. 992-15-0 from municipal funds.<sup>716</sup>

The following table will give the number and description of school and the attendance there in of boys and girls extracted from the Annul Report of Phaltan state 1895-96A.D.

Sr.No.	Description of School	Numbers of Pupils June 1895		Numbers of Pupils June 1896		Daily Average	
		Boy	Girls	Boy	Girls	Boy	Girls
1.	High School.	77	----	99	----	68.8	----
2.	Vernacular boy School.	1040	----	1115	----	840	----
3.	Girls School.	----	40	----	45	----	24.4



4.	Vedas School.	10	----	18	-----	12	----
	Total	1127	40	1232	69	920.8	24.4

“The number of Primary schools where education is imported up to the IV standard has increased from 25 to 27 and that of scholars from 1167 to 1301 and the average attendance has arisen from 854 to 920 of the two new boys schools one was opened in a village and other at Phaltan, specially for low caste such as Mahars, Mangs, Ramoshi, Chambhars, and the Vedic school which was closed last year has been reopened this year. Every village which demanded a school or in which a school could be maintained has been supplied with one and having regard to the number village (73) in the state, the number of schools (27) is fairly high.”

“In Phaltan school along with other low castes school are 49(Mahar boys) and in other village schools there are 62 Mahar boys, 18 wadars, 2 Mangs, 16 Ramoshis, 25 Chambhars, 3 Holars and 2 Bhangis. In all there are 180 low caste boys in a total of 1232 students.

“All the low caste boys are assisted in the last years report records they were admitted free in all schools and as a further inducement orders have been issued to supply them with books and slates free of charge. As no convenient building could be obtained in Phaltan for the low caste school, a school house has been specially erected outside the town. Rates of fees have been greatly reduced and boys of

villages who are unable to pay the full fees are admitted half free and all poor boys admitted wholly free in village schools without restriction of percentage."

"The numbers of girls has slightly decreased but the average attendance in the Phaltan Girls school has improved. A tailor has been engaged to teach sewing work to the girls. Sweet meats are given occasionally to induce a large number of girls and efforts are made by the *Kharbhari* and other officer for increasing the number of pupils."

"The Mudhoji High school is growing popular and doing useful work. 5 candidates were sent up from this school for the university school final examination."

The cost increased this year on education amounted to Rs. 7136-14-1 against 5136-13-1 of the last year out of these Rs. 2946-2-6 were from the state funds Rs. 3338-13-5 from the local funds Rs. 851-13-11 from the Municipal funds.<sup>17</sup>

In the annual report of 1896-97A.D. and 1897-98A.D. there was development of education. The report in detail is furnished below. The following statement will give the number and description of schools and the attendance there in of boys and girls extracted from the Annual Report of Phaltan state 1895-96A.D.<sup>18</sup>

Sr.No.	Description of School	Numbers of Pupils June 1895		Numbers of Pupils June 1896		Daily Average	
		Boy	Girls	Boy	Girls	Boy	Girls
1.	High School.	99	---	110	---	91.9	---
2.	Vernacular boy School.	1115	24	1177	45	895.2	---
3.	Girls School.	---	45	---	54	---	24.4
4.	Vedas School.	18	---	22	---	13	---
	Total	1252	69	1309	99	1000.1	24.4

“The statement given below will give the number and description of schools and attendance of boys and girls during the year under report as compared with the last year.”

Sr.No.	Description of School	Numbers of Pupils June 1895		Numbers of Pupils June 1896		Daily Average	
		Boy	Girls	Boy	Girls	Boy	Girls
1.	High School.	110	---	100	---	82.3	---
2.	Vernacular boy	1177	35	1137	35	863.3	---

	School.				
3.	Girls School.	--- 57	--- 60	--- 29.5	
4.	Vedas School.	23 ---	23 ----	16 ---	
	Total	1310 92	1260 95	961.8 29.5	

“ One circumstance that requires special mention under this head is the founding of a scholarship in the Mudhoji High school to encourage the study of Sanskrit. My daughter-in-law Shrimant Yashodabai alias Tai saheb expressed desire that a scholarship bearing her name and payable to students showing proficiency in Sanskrit be fond in the High School and be paid out the interest of Rs. 1000 which she gave out of her own *Stridhan*. The money was accepted with pleasure as a trust and scholarship has been founded according to the donor's wishes. There is a slight decrease in the number of girls in the Phaltan School but that in the village schools the number has remained stationary.<sup>19</sup> The Administrative Report of Phaltan state for the year 1898-99A.D. runs as follow “ The number of schools declined by I, viz. 232 including one girl school the attendance however did not suffer and stood at 1364. The expenditure on education was Rs. 9010 of which more than a half was defrayed from local or municipal funds.<sup>20</sup>

We learn from the Annual Report of 1899-1900A.D that Mudhojirao IV encouraged the meritious students by providing Scholarship to them. By this way he encouraged the students to excel themselves perfectly in the field of education.

“ The prize distribution ceremony of the High School and other Phaltan schools came off in November 1899A.D. in the Mudhoji High School building at which you were kind enough to Present Reports of the working of the schools were read and prizes were distribute to the pupils b yourself and Mrs. Dogson and you expressed yourself satisfied in Phaltan.”The total expenditure on education this year was Rs-9010-7-3.<sup>21</sup>

Due to progressive reforms of Mudhoji and his encouragement in the field of education all communities in the state equally responded and received proper education. It is crystal clear that in Annual Report of the state welfind growing numbers of schools and intake of students for getting education.

To the low caste people Mudhojirao IV provided education free of cost. In the school to deserving Pupils the learning aids like slates, Pencils, Books, Chalks were supplied from the state funds. The Annual Report of 1900-1901A.D. furnished the information as noted below.

The sub-joined table will show the progress of education in the state during the Year under report as compared with the past year.

NO. of School	Description of School	Number of		Number of		Daily Averages	
		School 5 <sup>th</sup> June		School 5 <sup>th</sup> June			
		1900		1901			
		Boy	Girl	Boy	Girl	Boy	Girl
1	Mudhoji High School	138	-----	140	-----	106.5	-----
29	Primary Boys School	1138	-----	1031	25	1720.5	-----
1	Primary Girls School	-----	70	-----	70	-----	34.6
1	Vedic School	8	-----	11	-----	7	-----
32	Total	1355	79	1182	95	1835	34.6

1. Out of 1031 boys in all primary schools 116 are Brahmin, 687 Marathas, 54 Mohammedans, 69 Mahars, 31 Chambhars and the rest belong to other castes.
2. There is a separate girl school in Phaltan. I village girls are tough along with boys. The number of girls in village schools has slightly increased
3. There are 26 boys school in villages and 3 in the town of Phaltan. Instruction is imported up to the Vernacular IV standard in the Primary schools. The boys desiring further instruction are sent to the High School. There is a separate school in Phaltan for the Mahar, Mang and other low caste boys. In this school as well as in all village schools low caste boys are

admitted free and supplied with slates and books free of cost. Similarly boys of the Kumbhar, Lohar, Sutar, Gurav and other non-agricultured classes are admitted free or half free in all village schools.

4. A Vedic school is maintained in Phaltan for the use of Brahmins only.
5. Mr. Coverenton Educational Inspector C.D. visited the High School in January last and made favorable remarks on the reading, writing and drawing of the boys.<sup>22</sup>

#### **FREE EDUCATION 1907A.D.: -**

Shrimant Mudhojirao IV was enlightened person. In the state of Phaltan he passed an order that primary and secondary education would be given free of charge.<sup>23</sup> Thus all the communities in the state irrespective of their social and economic status got an opportunity to receive free education. The Raja kept 5½% of his income reserved from the main source of the income of the state for educational upliftment of his subjects.<sup>24</sup>

In 1907A.D. Mudhojirao established night schools in his state. This reform helped the poor working class people at large. In the night school education was given from 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> standard. (Matriculation)

#### **FEMALE EDUCATION AND MUDHOJIRAO:-**

Mudhojirao IV did not pay attention only to the male education, but he paid his kind attention for female education likewise. He opened separate Girls schools,

where the female received education with almost care and encouragement. Mudhojirao IV was of the view that if one lady in the family is educated the whole family became educated. Because he believes that a mother could nourish and properly bring up her kiths and kins educationally.

In 1881A.D., a separate Vernacular (Local Language) school was established in Phaltan. In 1882-83A.D. the strength of female students was 35. He constructed a separate building for this school.<sup>25</sup>

For giving vocational training to the lady students of schools, he brought a lady teacher to taught sewing and how to work on sewing machines.<sup>26</sup> He wanted to make women folk self-sufficient economically also. He also appointed lady teachers to teach the art of embroidery.<sup>27</sup> He preferred only the married girls to get trained themselves in the vocational training. As a result the trained ladies earn good amount of money which supported their families financially. In 1885 A.D. Mudhoji IV appointed one lady teacher in the school of Phaltan.<sup>28</sup> In 1902A.D. in the town of Phaltan 72 girls were receiving education. In rural areas only 23 girls students were enrolled.<sup>29</sup> To conclude, Mudhojirao IV effort hard for the development of education irrespective of caste, class, economic status and gender, creed. He encouraged female education also. However its growth was little slow.



**FREESHIP AND SCHOLARSHIP IN PHALTAN STATE: -**

For encouragement to the meritorious and deserving students from the *Sansthan*, he rewarded freeship and scholarships. A student who stood first in the matriculation would definitely receive the scholarship.

Administrative Report of Phaltan state (1897A.D.) notes as

“ One circumstance that requires special mention under this head is that the founding of a scholarship in Mudhoji High School to encourage the study of Sanskrit. My (Mudhojirao IV) daughter-in-law Shrimanti Yashodabai alias Taisaheb expressed desire that a scholarship bearing her name and payable to students showing proficiency in Sanskrit be found in the High School and be paid amount of the interest Rs. 1000 which she gave from her own *Striidhan*. The money was accepted with pleasure as a trust and a scholarship has been founded according to donors wishes.”<sup>30</sup>

“The student who aspire for higher education after the matriculation would receive the Scholarship of Rs.20 /- per month. Shri.Velankar is an example among the recipients of such Scholarship for higher education.

In 1912A.D. in the state the Emperor George Scholarship was rewarded to the students. At that time the students who scored highest numbers of marks in matriculation were encouraged.<sup>31</sup> Their name and fame spread in another states as well. In 1912A.D. King George V ascended the throne in England. He visited

India then. On that occasion Mudhojirao IV announced the freeship of Rs. 20/- to a student who stood first in matriculation. Shri. S.B. Deshpande received this scholarship in 1912A.D.”<sup>32</sup>

All the educational institutions of Phaltan state like Schools and High Schools were run under Deputy Educational Inspector. Oftenly Mudhojirao IV visited the school and inspects progress. He brought importance before the all-literate masses and always insisted on education and knowledge.

The successor of Mudhoji IV Malojirao opened a College in Phaltan. By this he provided a facility of higher education to the pupils.

#### **REVENUE, LAND AND OTHER REFORMS:-**

The main profession of the masses in the state of Phaltan was agriculture. It was main source of livelihood. At a result the main source of income of the state was land revenue. Realizing that the prosperity of state\_lies in flourishing and productive agriculture Mudhojirao IV took the help of the English officer and surveyed the lands in the state. He classified the yielding capacity of land into High, Medium and low, quality lands. According to quality and yielding capacity of the lands, he fixed the land revenue.

In the state 5 types of land was available-

1. Grant Lands.
2. Service Lands.

3. Lands of the *Ryots*.
4. Crown Lands.
5. Khalasa Lands (private property).

In a village an official of state called *Talathi* was responsible for collection of revenues. The Patil helped him in his work. He remitted revenues in the treasury of Mamalatdar, who was state beauracrate.

In 1818A.D., from 80 villages 2019 Chavar, 118 Bighe, 3 Pand and 5 Poli lands were available.<sup>33</sup>

The Bagayat (gardens or irrigated lands by tanks or wells) was less and the Zirayat was more. Zirayat was a land, its production depended on monsoon. In 1882-83A.D. the Graning lands were included in forest lands. In 1883-84A.D. the forest lands consisted of 3072 acres and 12 *guntas*. These lands served very good amount of source of income to the state.<sup>34</sup> In 1898-99A.D. these lands yielded the income of Rs. 1720-5 Anna Paise 10. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 1294 Anna and Paise 10.<sup>35</sup>

In the state annually the land revenue was collected after crops of *Rabi* and *Kharif*.

#### **SURVEY SETTLEMENT OF MUDHOJIRAO IV: -**

In 1869A.D. the English Survey work was conducted the survey work in the state by English survey officers.<sup>36</sup> According to survey the rates of revenue were

fixed. The highest rate was Rs.2 and 8 Annas and the lowest Rs.1 only was in force.

5 types of rate was fixed. These were as follows.

1. Group- Rs.2 Anna 8.
2. Group- Rs.1 Only.
3. Group- Rs.1 Anna 8.
4. Group- Rs.1 Anna 4.
5. Group- Rs.1.

For fixing new rates in 1892A.D. Mudhojirao IV passed a resolution bearing No-7259 of 18-11-1892A.D. The English Govt. appointed G.C. Vitcomb, superintendent, native state survey in 1892A.D. He completed the work of fixing the new rates of revenue.

The revision survey was introduced into the state in 1894A.D., the rates being the same practically as those fixed in the neighboring British *Talukas*. The total average increase due to this revision is 29.5%, including the patasthal rates; remissions, however the made the this year on the lines of Igatpuri concession amounting to Rs.7931. During the year 3587 acres of wastelands were taken up for cultivation leaving 474 acres remaining.<sup>37</sup>

The state is in alliance with the British Govt. under the treaty of 1820 A.D. the administration of the state is carried on under the supervision of the political Agent of Satara, the chief Mudhojirao Naik Nimbalkar assisted by a Karbhari.

All the lands in the state had been ~~brought under~~ the revision survey settlement the cultivable land was occupied.<sup>38</sup>

#### **RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: -**

In the state of Phaltan the work of receipt and payment was carried on by the Mamalatdar. In 1883-84 A.D. Mudhojirao personally went into the villages and done the work of Mamlatdar. It had happened only in few villages. It is known as the most important event in the state that a ruler himself had came down from his seat and performed the official work.<sup>39</sup>

The state officials known as *Karbhari* worked on behest of the ruler in collection of revenue. Twice in a year i.e. on 25<sup>th</sup> February and 25<sup>th</sup> March the revenues were realized. The resources were collected in cash and kinds as well. After the end of harvest the farmers liked payment of revenue.<sup>40</sup>

#### **EFFORTS FOR IMPROVING AGRICULTURE INCOME: -**

Agriculture is the principal source of livelihood in the state and nearly ninety percent of the people are directly or indirectly engaged in the cultivation of land. Agriculturists as a class are proverbially illiterate and indebted and therefore

lived generally in helpless condition. Even in good seasons very few are in easy circumstances and most of them live from hand to mouth.

Whatever may be the cause of this helpless condition whether failure of rain or illiteracy they had inability to clear off the dues or debts of the landlords and the money lenders. Hence to improve their conditions it is duty of every state to adopt such measures that would ameliorate the agricultural population. Agriculture being chiefly dependent on rainfall which is mostly scanty and precarious in this part of the country. It is certainly desirable that a portion of the people should engage in other trades and industries. But having regard to the tendencies and capacities of the people, the economic condition of the country can be improved in the present population to industries, arts and manufacturing. It does not seem that the change that greatly desirable is possible for many years to come. It is therefore necessary that the state should direct its attention to agriculture and try to improve it by increased water supply and other means. The Govt. of Bombay in reviewing in the years 1898-99 A.D. Administration Report have recommended that sustained attention and liberal assistance should be given to irrigational work. 1897-98 A.D. and 1998-99 A.D. years reports will show that Phaltan state has had the same object in view and has been doing all it could to with its limited resources to improve the agricultural water supply in the state. There *Bandharas* have been put across on three streams but owing to scanty rainfall they have proved useless and

canal irrigation, therefore seems out of question. The tanks for the same reason are of little avail. The only other way to improve the water supply by digging wells and the state has directed its special attention to this subject.

Nearly twenty thousand rupees was advanced this 1898 A.D. year to the *ryots* to repair and deepen wells. Experience has however shown that all the money advanced is not applied to the purpose for which it is given but is often mis-spent in marriage and other domestic occurrences and in payment of debts by the peasants. With a view to avoid this misapplication of money and to attain the primary object the state irrigation. Department on receiving the applications from the landholders and when the work would up to *Kachamot* (Waterlift). The amount was to handed over to them for use. An experienced irrigation overseer has been engaged who as an expert carefully examines the place where a proposed well is to be sunk and then begins the work. If no water is found out the state bears the expenditure. When well is completed it was handed over to the owner(Farmer). He has to pay annually as a sort of water rate the interest at  $\frac{1}{4}\%$  on the amount of expenditure incurred. In sinking of the well, the farmer was given with an option to repay the amount within 30 years.

Seventeen new wells were sunk in the year under the rule and eight of them have been given in charge of the applicants a large number of applicants for sinking new wells have been received and the work will be undertaken as funds

are available. A careful inspection of all the existing wells in the state was made in the year 1898 A.D. and the examination has shown that there are 2511 wells in use of which 77 were newly sunk. This year and 686 were repaired either with private money or with Tagai advances.

#### **SHETKARI SABHA OR AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION (1896 A.D.): -**

In addition to well irrigation the other means restored for the improvement of agriculture was the Shetkari Sabha or The Agricultural Association. It was an experimental form. The Shetkari Sabha as its name shows is a body of intelligent men and influential landholders and Patils with *karbhari* as its president and the Agricultural teacher of the Mudhoji High School as its secretary. The object of this sabha was to diffuse through its members, the knowledge of the peasant principles and methods of improved and scientific means. Three meeting of the Sabha were held during year 1898-99 A.D.<sup>41</sup>

#### **FAMINE LOAN AND TAGAI: -**

Under the able rule of Mudhoji IV the progress of Phaltan state geared up. When famine broke out in the state the farmers were put under depressed conditions. In this critical time the state had come for their rescue and provided all kinds of facilities like agricultural, loan, tagai etc. In 1876-77 A.D. the whole of Deccan had come under the effects of famine. In these years Mudhojirao IV generously lent loans to the farmers for improving their conditions- How much



amount was given as a loan, the state documents are silent. In 1883-84A.D. from state Rs. 90 and 8 Anna was provided as a loan to the farmers.

In 1891-92 A.D. from the state a loan of Rs. 15532/- was given to the farmers. By this amount the farmers purchased bullocks, seeds and agricultural equipments.

In the ensuing year the following amount of loan was advanced.

1. 1893-94 A.D.-----Rs. 1255=00
2. 1894-95 A.D.-----Rs 1245=00
3. 1897-98 A.D.-----Rs 12258=00
4. 1899-00 A.D.-----Rs 20000=00

In later years (noted above) the state advanced big loans to the farmers because of severe famine engulfed the whole of the Deccan including the Phaltan state.<sup>42</sup>

With a view to provide livelihood to the famine affected people Mudhoji IV started the big projects in the state. Those project rendered means of livelihood to the people. The public utility works were undertaken by the state, which are as under.

#### **CONSTRUCTION OF BANGANGA DAM: --(1896A.D. )**

Mudhojirao constructed a dam across the Banganga River in Phaltan state and the excavated a small canal. “ It is estimated that the water works when

completed will irrigate about 500 acres. This work was connected as a relief work. For construction of these dams 300 workers were engaged. Hence a livelihood for such a majority was provided by Mudhojirao IV.<sup>43</sup>

#### **CONSTRUCTION OF KAPADGAON DAM: - (1896A.D. )**

Another work requiring the special attention is the construction of dam across a stream near Kapadgaon and the excavation of a small canal. This work was undertaken as an irrigation work and when completed will irrigate about 300 acres of lands.<sup>44</sup>

#### **NEW DAM CONSTRUCTION NEAR KOREGAON: -**

In the west of his dominion Mudhojirao IV undertook the project of constructing two dams on the small rivers (nallahs) near Koregaon. In this region there is shortage of rainfall. The annual report of 1898-99 A.D. records the project of dams undertaken near Koregaon. Under a head of irrigation a dam was constructed across a new stream near Koregaon and the two old dams and canals were repaired. A survey of streams and places is likely to be useful as tanks or reservoirs are made this year. From an irrigational point of view the construction of such works has been possible and profitable will be taken in hand in future.<sup>45</sup>

### **CONSTRUCTION OF LONAND-PHANDARPUR ROAD : -**

Within a couple of years of his accession Mudhojirao IV constructed the portion of the Lonand-Pandharpur road passing through his state. This road became road of very great importance as the main route of communication between important districts around and had been undertaken as a famine relief work.<sup>46</sup>

The annual report of state provide information that a number of occasions Mudhojirao IV undertook projects of road repairs, only to provide means of livelihood to his famine stricken people. Rs.9080/-was spent on improving the road from Phaltan to Lonand, a station on the west Deccan railways.<sup>47</sup>

On Pandharpur road across a small rivers Mudhoji Iv constructed a bridge near Kalaj village which facilitated the movements of the people and traders etc.<sup>48</sup>

### **ADARKI ROAD: -**

A new feeder road was made so as to connect the Adarki station on the southern railway to the Phaltan Satara road. Watering mango trees in the Adarki Ghat.

### **CONSTRUCTION OF MOGARALA GHAT: -**

To connect Phaltan and Man—Mudhojirao IV dug up a Ghat and a road was constructed. In the year 1886-87A.D. the new work under taken was the road in Mogarala Ghat which cost Rs. 2998-10-3.<sup>49</sup>

**JAWALI TO SHINGNAPUR ROAD: -**

Mudhojirao IV in his tenure had constructed many roads in the state. Important among them is Jawali to Shinganapur road. This road is big and well built. He connected the village of Jawali known for Bhairavnath Temple with Shinganapur. The main aim behind construction of this road is to facilitate the movement of Pilgrims and encourage the people to pay visit to holy places at least risk and trouble of traveling. The construction of work had began in 1892-93 A.D. It had been completed at the cost of Rs. 549-15-6<sup>50</sup> and annually the Raja spent money particularly for the repairs of the said road. He intended the pilgrims should travel with out any strains of journey.<sup>51</sup>

**BARAMATI ROAD: -**

To facilitate trade and commerce in the state and generally for the improvement of economic conditions of the state, Mudhojirao IV constructed Phaltan-Baramati road.<sup>52</sup> For a number of time he undertook its repairs. This road served as a bone for commercial development in the area.

Moreover throughout the state Mudhoji ordered construction of roads connecting the villages with the towns. These interior road served a big purpose. First the people sought livelihood during famine days. Secondary the interior road would facilitates supply of provisions into the affected villages and lastly the trade

and commerce would improve. Like big roads the small roads were also repaired regularly.

The Bombay famine code or act was enforced in the state. By this relief was provided to the famine affected people. On Phaltan-Lonand road the village named Nimbore was provided with relief by the code.<sup>53</sup>

#### **EXEMPTION OF LAND REVENUE TO THE FARMERS: -**

In 1900-1901 A.D. again famine visited the state. By this the condition of *Ryot* became deplorable and distressed. Looking into their grievances Mudhoji IV exempted from the payment of 25% land revenue to the state from the famine affected *Ryots*.

In the same year he spent Rs.2000/- for construction of roads in the state. In famine works or projects strength of 347 labours involved. The state official known as Mahalkarni visited 27 villages where the famine affected severely. He informed the Govt. about the conditions of the people.

Due to famine 4000 of domestic animals like Oxen, Cow, Buffalo etc. were dead. To save them, about 4000 people were shifted to Konkan and the rest of them, which remained in the state, were provided with fodder purchased from Akluj, Malsiras and Pandharpur.<sup>54</sup>

In the year 1905-06 A.D. again due to shortage of rain, famine like situation created in the state. Mudhoji IV again exempted 1/6 part of agricultural revenue to the farmers.

In the same year he constructed one dam and one tank near Nimbalak village. The expert artisans and skilled laborers were paid daily wages from Annas 8 to 12. The unskilled laborers were paid Annas 2 to 3.<sup>55</sup>

#### **INDUSTRY IN PHALTAN STATE: -**

In Phaltan state there are no trades and manufacturers of worth mentioning. The state or the country being purely agricultural, there were however a few handlooms and oil pressers. The number of looms was 205 and that of presses 45. The cotton silk and woolen clothes are manufactures on these looms. Kardi oil, Jawari and wheat are largely exported in bullock carts to Satara, Bombay etc. The import chiefly consists of Salt, Rice, Sugar, Iron and Copper. The imports were spices, cloth and other foreign articles.<sup>56</sup> In the state people had adopted different professions in accordance with their requirements in the villages. There existed the carpenters, blacksmiths, stonecutters, goldsmiths, potters etc. Their economic position was fluctuating.

In 1903 A.D., there were 169 handlooms in the state, its number increased to 171 in 1911 A.D. The products were exported to Bombay markets.<sup>57</sup>

Thus the principal manufacturer of the state were Silk and cotton clothes. The goods made with country looms such as *Dhotarjoda*, *Uparnis*, *Lugadis* and the articles of the trade consist of Kardi-oil, jawari, wheat, country cloth, Kanblis from the export and those of imports were consisted of superior sorts of clothes thread, yarn and silk.<sup>58</sup>

#### **CONSTRUCTION OF NEW TEMPLES: -**

Mudhojirao IV built many temples throughout the state and the beautiful temple of Nageshwar, the Sabhamandap of Ramas temple and the adjoining Dattas temple are excellent specimen of his natural taste for sound architecture. The statuary on the Nageshwar temple depicting Pauranik incidents shows his love for ancient art and cultural.<sup>59</sup>

#### **ESTABLISHMENT OF PHALTAN MUNICIPALITY: - (1868A.D.)**

Mudhojirao established a municipality in the town of Phaltan in 1868 A.D. He constructed many roads, drainages in the town. He built municipal hall also. Phaltan municipality was an only one-municipality state in the state. It consisted 20 nominated members and 7 Govt. officials. The Karbhari who was the president of controls the general working of the municipality.<sup>60</sup>

Administration Report runs as follows: -“The population within Municipal limits according to the Census of 1881A.D. is 9080. All the municipal arrangements are under my own control but the purpose of carryings out special

reforms a general committee has been appointed and entrusted with the management of the Municipality. Since last year some of the members have been appointed to form a managing committee. They supervised the conservancy arrangements and the tending of the trees planted around the town of Phaltan disposed all other miscellaneous work.”<sup>61</sup>

“ The heads of expenditure will show that the municipal money has been applied to the execution of several works of public utility besides the maintenance of conservancy and other establishment. The followings may be specially mentioned as the works done by this year. 20 street lamps have been added to the existing number of 24. Public latrines of corrugated iron sheets have been purchased and put up at the recommendation of Dr. Andreson, Deputy Sanitary Commissioner. Four new road were commenced and almost all the existing ones were repaired. A fire Pump has been purchased for use in the town. One cistern and four public stand pipes have been constructed and but not least is the expenditure on public drainage viz. the construction of U shaped garters, the necessity and important of which was long felt.”<sup>62</sup>

The town municipality undertook the works like cleaning, road repair, maintenance of cleanliness in the markets etc. The state provided regular grants to the municipality levied a tax called *Karpatti*.

This tax was collected in different rates. Those are as follows-



1. Rs.5 and Anna 4.
2. Rs.4 and Anna 8.
3. Rs.4 only.

The *Karpatti* was levied upon is in descending rates. According to the economic position of the groups or communities the tax was collected.<sup>63</sup>

In 1891-92 A.D. the municipality began to collect the water tax.

#### **ESTABLISHMENT OF DISPENSARIES IN THE STATE (1883 A.D.): -**

Mudhojirao IV established one dispensary in 1883 A.D. in the state. It was only of the happiest moment for the people of the state that for keeping good health of his subject Mudhojirao IV opened a dispensary, which a lot to the patients and they were cured from their diseases. The above information is mentioned in annual Report of 1885-86 A.D.

The Annual Report of 1899-1900 A.D. also narrates, “ The dispensary at Phaltan wa established in 1883 A.D. this building has been approved of by the late political Agent Mr. J King. People from Phaltan state and the adjoining villages of the British territory come to seek relief at this Dispensary. The number of patients admitted this year was 7744 against 8182 in the previous year of these 7724 were outdoor patients and 20 indoor one against 8175 and 7 in the previous year respectively.<sup>64</sup>

There is a stationary Dispensary at Phaltan for the town and another traveling for distant villages. The Phaltan Dispensary is in charge of an experienced and competent medical man who is also the chief Medical Officer of the state. Medical relief is given freely at the Dispensary to all those who come either from the town or the surrounding villages of the state or British territory.”<sup>65</sup>

In the Dispensary one Doctor was appointed. The villages received proper medical care from the doctor and the Dispensary. By this institution, the spread of diseases like ‘Pestilence’ was controlled.

#### **WATER SUPPLY SCHEME IN PHALTAN TOWN 1887-88 A.D.: -**

The most important act was the construction of water works. For over a century Phaltan had been proverbial for scarcity of water and attempts were made in almost every regime to construct water works.

In order to improve the water supply of the Phaltan state water levels have been taken with reference to the sourced of living water in the Nala at Nirgudi village. In this state Rao Bahadoor Vasudev Bapooji Kanitkar of Poona was formally served the British Government as engineer and has a name for being well skilled in the profession.<sup>66</sup>

Then Mudhojirao IV constructed from state funds were completed during the year 1887-88 A.D. The Phaltan state water supply work was completed in total cost of Rs. 84305, including petty repairs.<sup>67</sup> Through this was made easier water

supply to the town was made. In fact Phaltan was now one of the few places in the Deccan, which can boast of its clean and pure water supply. This act of his is a standing memorial of his generous care for the people. By water supply projects of Mudhoji IV the people of Phaltan got the clean and healthy water for drinking that to in plenty. From Nirgudi village the naturally flown water was tapped and brought from the distance of 7 km. to Phaltan.

#### **ESTABLISHMENT OF SOME CHAVARIS AND SCHOOLS AND DHARAMSHALAS: -**

In number of villages Mudhojirao IV constructed administrative buildings called *chavaris*, where the official work of the area was carried on. Regarding construction of their administrative buildings the information is provided in Annual Report of 1887-88 A.D. It follows, as under, "There is a school building at Phaltan. The schools at other places are accommodated in *Dharamshala*, *Chavaris* principally. As soon as funds admit of it school buildings will be provided there also."<sup>68</sup>

For giving facilities to the travelers, trades and people on journey, he constructed important roads, the rest houses *Dharamshalas* or *Sairais*. So that is the nights the travelers could stay safely and rest properly." In the rural areas also Mudhoji constructed the school buildings. This helped a lot in development of education.

The Annual Administrative Report of 1891-92 A.D. records that Mudhojirao IV had constructed two *Chavaris* in Sonawadi BK and Kurwali BK respectively. <sup>69</sup>In addition the same chavaris were built in Vatar, Mirgaon, Tambve, Vadale, Mandavkhadak. One school he had constructed at Gunavare.<sup>70</sup>

In the rural areas he dug up number of wells in the villages which helped a lot to the villagers. They were provided with drinking water at their disposal in their villages. Wells were also constructed in Aradgaon, Nmandavkhadak, Manjavadi, Rajori, Tadavale, Kosoor villages. He also repaired the rest house or *Dharamshala* of Javali village.

In 1897-98 A.D. Annual Report the public works Mudhoji had done is cited as under, “ several new *chavaris* were built. Almost all the *Dharamshalas*, school houses and building were repaired, so where the provincial and local roads.”<sup>71</sup>

New *Chavaris* were built in six villages of Bhadali, Tirakwadi, Pimpalachiwadi, Khmgaon, Korala and Kopadgaon.<sup>72</sup>

Thus he had completed many welfare activities for the benefit of his subjects. The construction of roads, dams, providing means of livelihood to the skilled and unskilled laborers. Constructions of tanks digging wells, Dharamshalas, Chavaris etc. were the public utility works.

**VICTORIA DIAMOND LIBRARY: -**

As we know that Mudhojirao IV was a stalwart in educational reforms. He opened a number of schools, High Schools and a college in Phaltan. He encouraged the meritorious and deserving students by providing freeship and scholarships. He provided free education to poor communities so on and so forth. He wanted people of his state should become unprecedented sincere citizens. With news that the people of his state require knowledge and cultivate the habit of reading, he opened a Victoria Diamond Library.

“ Among the work under taken this year the constructin of the Victoria Diamond Jubilee Library and museum of which the foundation stone was laid with ceremony on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 1897 may be specially mentioned. The plinth and the first storey of this building have been completed.<sup>73</sup>

Today the Victoria Diamond Library is known as Shivaji Vachanalaya. The people irrespective of their age and caste creed and class take use of this library.

**MUDHOJI CLUB: -**

The Mudhoji club was started on the 1<sup>st</sup> of 1916 A.D. by the ruler Shrimant Mudhojirao alias Bapusaheb. The club has a very fine airy building outside the town. The club by its various activities has always been a popular institution adding greatly to the amenities of the town. Even today this club is working in good condition.<sup>74</sup>

### **CONSTRUCTIN OF MANMOHAN PALACE BY MUDHOJI IV: -**

In Phaltan Mudhoji constructed a palace named Mudhoji Manmohan Palace for his own residence. The construction of old portion of this palace to the west of this court-yard was commenced on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1861 and was completed on the 28<sup>th</sup> August 1909A.D. and was completed on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 1911A.D.

Both these portions were named Mudhoji Manmohan Palace and were Shrimant Mudhojirao Janrao alias Bapusaheb Naik Nimbalkar C.S.I, who ruled the Phaltan state from the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1860 A.D. to 17<sup>th</sup> October 1916 A.D.

### **RELATION BETWEEN SHRIMANT MUDHOJIRAO AND BRITISH GOVERNMENT: -**

The relation between Mudhoji IV and the British Govt. were cordial hence, for this region the English Governors, residents and the officials visited regularly to the state of Phaltan.

On two occasions, so far a governor of Bombay had paid a visit to the state, the first was paid by Sir "George Russel Cleark" in the year 1860 A.D. and second by sir " James Ferguson" in 1881 A.D.<sup>75</sup>

As regards the administration of Mudhoji IV there is an evidence to show that it was often commended by the government as popular and efficient. A letter from the collector of Satara dated 26<sup>th</sup> April 1865 A.D. forwarded a Government resolution which contained the remarks. " Your regime is a popular one."

Government were pleased to recognize his merit and honored by appointing him member of the governors legislative council and his appointment was published in the Gazette of 31<sup>st</sup> August 1878 A.D.

**TITLE OF C.S.I. (1911 A.D.): -**

In the year 911 A.D. his imperial majesty was graciously pleased to honor Shrimant Mudhojirao with the title of C.S.I. At this time Mudhojiaro a very old and is advance age and was in bad health, he could not attend the Delhi Darbar in person and therefore Mr. G. S. Curtis, then Commissioner C.D. personally came to Phaltan to present the insignia of the C.S.I. to him. In the speech made by Mr. Curtis on the occasion he said, "It is with great pleasure that, I come here today at the humble representative of His Majesty the King Emperor to place in your charge the insignia of the C.S.I. which his majesty was pleased to confer upon you on the occasion of the last Delhi Durbar. It was I am sure, a matter of regret to his majesty, as it was unquestionably to all of us, that you, the Oldest reigning Chief in India, were not able to receive the honor from the king himself but that was unfortunately impossible. Your reign has been distinguished by a devoted regard for your people and a constant endeavourer to promote their good. You have always been distinguished for loyalty to your sovereign. Your Private life has been the model of what a gentleman should be. I trust that you will be speedily restored to health and live long to wear the decoration which his majesty conferred."<sup>76</sup>

In Mudhojirao British Government always found a faithful friend. In the World War I 1914-18 A.D. Mudhoji IV stood by the British Govt. He helped financially and supplied some results who fought the great war on behalf of the British.<sup>77</sup>

#### **EVALUATION OF MUDHOJIRAO'S ACHIEVEMENTS: -**

Shrimant Mudhojirao's regime lasted for full 56 years. This great man died on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 1916 A.D. at the advanced age of 79, when the great war was still raging. It is one continuous story of righteous administration and act of public utility. Within a couple of years of his accession the late chief constructed the portion of the Lonand-Pandharpur road passing through this state. This road became of very great importance as the main route of the communication between important Districts around and has now been provincialized. The next important act was the construction of Water-works. Though orthodox in his ideas, he was very progressive and modern in his educational schemes. He brought into existence several primary schools and had a very well equipped and efficiently staffed High School. He also established girl's school nearly forty years ago and spread education in the dressed classes by having a school for them. Only nominal fees were charged for education in 1906 A.D. after recovery from his serious



illness he made all educations free. He constructed rest houses for the convenience of travelers and built *Chavaris* in all villages. This town owes a great deal to his love of art and architecture. He gave a municipality to his town in 1868 A.D. and constructed various roads and draining in the town. Many public buildings have been erected by him and the High school, the library and the municipal hall are some of his chief productions. The present Palace is entirely his work and the front portion built on modern lines, was only lately added by him. He built many temples throughout the state and the beautiful temples Nageshwar temple.

As regard his administration there is evidence to show that it was often commended by the Government as popular and efficient. So Shrimant Mudhojirao always been a popular friend to the British Government. He was appointing as the member of the Governors Legislative council and his appointment was published in the Gazzete of 31<sup>st</sup> August 1878A.D. In the year 1911 he received the title of C.S.I.

From 1860, Mudhoji IV took the projects of modern development in the state up to 1916 A.D., he introduced and completed a number of modern projects completed number of modern projects in his state, which ultimately were of great help to hos masses. His adopted son, Malojirao stepped into his shoes. Like his father he undertook reforms for modernization of his state. The dream of modernization was completely realized during his tenure. He crowned the

achievements of his father and completed a many modern development works in his state. It was really a crowning glory and memory noticed in History of the state of Phaltan. The reforms introduced by Mudhoji for the welfare of his state as stated by his son and successor Malojirao in one speech are mentioned in the administrative reports of 1927-28 A.D. which are as follow.

“The long regime that followed lasted for full 56 years. It is one continuous story of righteous administration and acts of public utility within a couple of years of his accession the late chief constructed the portion of the Lonand- Pandharpur road, passing through this state. This road became of great importance as the main route of communication between important districts around and has now been provincialized. The next important act was the construction of water works. For over a century Phaltan had been proverbial for scarcity of water and attempts were made in almost every regime to construct waterworks. The present indigenous construction, which cost over a lakh of rupees has brought abundant and easy water-supply to the town. In fact Phaltan is now one of the few place in the Deccan, which can boast of its clean and pure water supply. This act of his is a standing memorial of his generous care for the people. Through orthodox in his ideas, he was very progressive and modern in his educational schemes. He brought into existence several primary schools and had a very well equipped and efficiently staffed High School. He also established a Girl’s school nearly forty

years ago and spread education in the depressed classes by having a school for them. Only nominal fees were charged for education in 1906. After recovery from his serious illness he made education free of cost. He constructed rest houses for the convenience of travelers and built *Chavaris* in all the villages.

The town of Phaltan owes a great deal to his love of art and architecture. He gave a municipality to this town in 1868 A.D. and constructed various roads and drainage in the town. Many public buildings have been erected by him such as the High School, the library and the Municipal halls are worthy of note. The present palace is entirely his work and the front portion built on modern lines was only lately added by him. He built many temples throughout the state. The beautiful temple on Nageshwar, the Sabhamandap of Rama's temple and the adjoining Datta's temple are excellent specimen of his natural taste for sound architecture. The story on the Nageshwar temple depicting Pauranic incidents shows his love for ancient art and epics.

As regards the administration of Mudhoji IV , there is evidence to show that it was often commended by the British Government for his popular and efficient rule. A letter from the collector of Satara dated so far back as 26<sup>th</sup> April 1865 A.D. forwarded to the British Government. The resolution, which contained the remarks, "This regime is a popular one, the government were pleaded to recognize his merit and honored him by appointing him as a member of the Governor's

Legislative Council and his appointment was published in the gazette of 31<sup>st</sup> August 1878 A.D. In the year 1911 A.D. his imperial Majesty was graciously pleased to honor my father (Maloji) with the title of C.S.I. As my father was then very old and in bad health, he could not attend the Delhi Durbar in person and therefore Mr.G. S. Curtis, then Commissioner C.D. personally came to Phaltan to present the insignia of the C.S.I. to him. In the speech made by Curtis on the occasion, he said, "It is with great pleasure that, I come here today at the humble representative of His Majesty the King Emperor to place in your charge the insignia of the C.S.I. which his majesty was pleased to confer upon you on the occasion of the last Delhi Durbar. It was I am sure, a matter of regret to his majesty, as it was unquestionably to all of us, that you, the Oldest reigning Chief in India, were not able to receive the honor from the king himself but that was unfortunately impossible. Your reign has been distinguished by a devoted regard for your people and a constant endeavourer to promote their good. You have always been distinguished for loyalty to your sovereign. Your Private life has been the model of what a gentleman should be. I trust that you will be speedily restored to health and live long to wear the decoration which his majesty conferred."

My father was a man of spotless moral character. His physique was exceptionally strong and sturdy, his appearance handsome and noble, his manners dignified and his habits simple. In short he was a fine specimen of the old Maratha

Chivalry. He was very generous and gave encouragement to deserving persons. He also extended his subjects was unbounded and knew no distinction of class or creed. His equal treatment to all communities is, I believe the main reason of the absence of the communal troubles here even in these times. He was very religious minded and led almost a saintly life. A memorial to such an illustrious ruler was long being contemplated by me (Malojirao) and my people.

“Your excellency, my love for my father (Mudhojirao) has made me rather to dilate on this subject. However I shall now close with only a few concluding words. There are many here who have enjoyed his personal confidence and the blessings of his good administration. I myself am a person who owes more to him than anybody else here. He gave me this position by adopting me and he imparted to me the best of education. My people and I have arranged today's function as a mark of our deep sense of gratitude to the late chief. He was a joining link between new and old order. His greatness lay in his adaptive nature. His early days emerge out the last remnants of the Maratha power and his last days had well advanced into the welding period of India and Britain as inseparable parts of one Great Empire under the British crown. This great man died on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 1916 to the great of us all at the advanced age of 79, when the great war was still raging. He was a man who could look back upon his career with satisfaction and

say to himself. I have achieved something and with regard to whom all can justly say that he had achieved a great deal.<sup>78</sup>

The achievements of Mudhoji IV which are high appreciable are cited in 1934-35 A.D. Annual reports of the state as follows.

“ After her death (Sahebji Bai) the British Government administered the state till the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1860, when Mudhojirao IV alais Bapusaheb the adoptive father of the present ruler was invested with ruling power. He ruled for more than half a century from 1860to 1916 A.D. he was appointed a member of the Bombay Legislative Council in 1878 A.D. and the title of C.S.I. was conferred on him in 1911 A.D. It was under his long and progressive rule that many schemes of public utility and works of art seen today in Phaltan were introduced.”

His successor Malojirao completed the work of modernization of Phaltan state, which is dealt in the next chapter.

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**CHAPTER - V**

**SHRIMANT MALOJIRAO  
(EARLY PHASE)  
(1917 A.D. TO 1935 A.D.)**

**CHAPTER V****SHRIMANT MALOJIRAO (EARLY PHASE)****(1917 A.D. TO 1935 A.D.)**

Shrimant Malojirao alias Nanasaheb Naik Nimbalkar was the last progressive ruler of the state of Phaltan. He reigned Phaltan state from 1917 A.D. to 1948 A.D. He is the maker of modern Phaltan state. He developed his state in all respect viz. social economic education and cultural. Hence the credit of making Phaltan as a modern state goes to Malojirao.

As states earlier in 1270 A.D. the state of Phaltan was established. It continued up to 8<sup>th</sup> March 1948 A.D. The state ceased to exist when it was integrated into the Indian union. This credit of integration goes to Maloji, because during his tenure the state joined the democratic Indian union.

He ruled for 31 years in total and during his time many important political events took place. The end of First World War earmarked Tilak era, and on the other hand it opened the nationalist movement under the able leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. Hence during Maloji's reign important political events happened in nationalist history of India.

In between two great wars there was a rise of great Dictators, Beneto Musolini of Italy and Adolf Hitler of Germany. The allied powers defeated

them in the Second World War. The major country in the Allied group was England. Due to her involvement in the war, the country's economic position had shattered, thus the Nationalist movement under Mahatma Gandhi had geared up in India. Hence it was practically impossible for England to improve its finances and keep political grip over India. Hence Great Britain was compelled to grant freedom to Indians on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1947.

As in other princely states there was political impact of the above events. In the Phaltan state also, can be felt. Maloji agreed to join Indian Union as other Princely state did.

Malojirao was a social reformer in his state. he earned a good name in administration. He improved the state by all means and always went to good for his subjects. So he decided to join the Indian Union in the interest of his people in particular and India in general.

He was true follower of Mahatma Gandhi. After merger of Phaltan state in Indian Union, Maloji took active part in political affairs of Bombay state. he was elected as M.L.A. and by his sheer dint of merit he became minister in the cabinet. During his tenure of office as a minister a number of political events took place.

Hence for sake of research I have made two phases of his study i.e. the first phase from 1917A.D. to 1935 A.D. and the second phase from 1926 A.D. to 1948 A.D.

#### **BIRTH AND EARLY LIFE OF MALOJIRAO: -**

Malojirao was the last ruler of Phaltan state. The late Shrimant Mudhojirao alias Bapusaheb Naik Nimbalkar had adopted him and made him his successor. Malojirao had born on 11<sup>th</sup> September 1896 A.D. and that day happens to be a festival of Ganesh Chaturthi. He was born in the Nimbore village 5 miles away in the west of Phaltan.<sup>1</sup> His father name was Shrimant Raghunathrao Sambhajirao alias Babasaheb Naik Nimbalkar. His afther belongs to the highest nobility of the state. he was *Fauzdar* in the department of police of state. Malojirao had great love and trust on Raghunath Sambhaji. In turn Raghunath also had great respect and devotion to Mudhojirao.

Mudhojirao had a son by name Venkatrao. He was famous for his bravery. He was expert rider, archer and well verse in art of war and physical exercises. Once an elephant became uncontrolled, even the Mohowat dared not to control it. It was Venkatrao who came forward and brought his control over the elephant by his intelligence and physical prowess. Unfortunately Venkatrao met tragic death in 1887 A.D.<sup>2</sup> henece for

this reason Mudhoji adopted Narayan the second son of Raghunath Sambhaji as his heir apparent. The east India Company accorded its sanction for this adoption.

About father of Maloji Diwan Shri. K.V. Godbole passed the following information.

“Shrimant Rajesaheb (Malojirao) was the adopted son of Mudhoji. His father Raghunath Sambhaji was nearest relatives of the royal family expected that Mudhoji would adopt their sons. However Mudhojirao adopted son of Raghunath because of his character and loyalty towards the royal family and the state. Raghunathrao lived upto 1936 A.D. Diwan K.V.Godbole lived with Raghunathrao since 1912 A.D.” He writes that Raghunathrao was gentle person and had good moral characters. He never deceived any body.

Likewise Maloji's mother was also a lady of high esteem and character. Though her son became ruler of Phaltan, nevertheless she did not change her simple life. She never entered the Royal court and never self styled herself. As people do not believe at once that the mother of a ruler of Phaltan state led such an auspicious and simple life as of her own. In graceful family Maloji had taken birth, hence it is said that he took birth in pure and auspicious Gangotri. Maloji had very good family background. It

was due to teachings of his parents, he never got inroads in rights and privileges of others. He never acted autocratically and never concentrated full powers in his hands. He ruled for the betterment and upliftment of his subjects. He always cared for the development in his state. Hence he is remembered as a progressive ruler of Phaltan state.<sup>3</sup>

#### **ADOPTION CEREMONY OF MALOJIRAO (1899 A.D.): -**

Unfortunately Venkataro the son of Mudhojirao met the tragic death. Hence Mudhojirao started a search for a suitable heir apparent. There started contest among his relation for offering their sons for adoption.

Looking into the family background and its services towards the Royal family, Mudhojirao adopted Narayanrao as his successor. Mudhojirao applied for sanction of adoption. The Government of presidency after examining the physical and mental prowess of Narayanrao gave its accord for adoption. Mudhojirao paid *Peshkash* (gift money) to the Bombay Government.

The Phaltan state organized adoption ceremony on 28<sup>th</sup> December 1899 A.D.<sup>4</sup> in this ceremony the rulers of other princely state, the relatives of royal family and the British officers took part. Before all celebrated guests of honor the adoption ceremony was completed in accordance with customs



and practice of Hindu religion. The name of Narayanrao was changed as Malojirao alias Nanasaheb, after the adoption ceremony.

Hence this adopted Prince became the godfather of subjects of Phaltan state in future. He now and then strived for development of his state.

At the time of adoption Maloji was only 4 years old. His mothers name was Sitabai Ranavara. She belonged to well-known family of Nimbore. After adoption Malojirao took responsibility of education and upbringing of the Prince. He gave him education in the art of administration and trained him in all respect. It was due to such education Maloji earned great name and fame in history of his state.

#### **EDUCATION OF MALOJIRAO: -**

The primary education of Maloji was completed in the Royal Palace, under his royal tutor named Shri. Gopal Raghunathrao Bhide (B.A. Sanskrit) and Headmaster of Mudhoji High School Phaltan. After this Maloji was admitted in candy Saheb, Sardar Highschool. He studied in this Highschool for two years. In 1913-14 A.D. for higher education Maloji joined Rajkumar College, Rajcote.<sup>5</sup> this college was solely meant for the education of the princes of the states in India and started by the Britishers. In this college Shahu Maharaj of Kolhapur, Chintamanrao Patwardhan of Sangli and other princes of Indian states studied. In this college attention was paid on

teaching of administration to the princes. In addition the training in sports and games and excursions like tennis, polo, shooting, swimming, hunting, music, painting and other fine arts was given.

#### **MARRIAGE OF MALOJIRAO (1913 A.D.): -**

According to Hindu system the marriage of Maloji was arranged in 1913 A.D. this marriage was information is provided by Retired private secretary, Vinayak Bhikaji Deshpande. It runs thus:

“the marriage of Malojirao was celebrated on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1913 A.D. This matrimonial alliance was made in the family of Maratha senapati Dhanaji Jadhavrao. A noble by name Shrimant Shambhusinghrao Amratsinghrao jadhavrao belonged to this family whogave his third daughter Abayee in marriage to Maloji. Shambhusinghrao had a sister by the same name Abayee who was married to Mudhojirao. It is worth mentioning here that since long the nuptial relations existed between Jadhavrao and Naik Nimbalkar families.<sup>6</sup>

At the time of his marriage Malojirao was aging 17 years.

After marriage the name of new bride was changed from Abayee to Laxmidevi Ranisaheb.

**INVESTURE CEREMONY OF MALOJIRAO(15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 1917****A.D.): -**

On 17<sup>th</sup> October 1916 A.D., the ruler of Phaltan Mudhojirao then aged 79 years passed away.<sup>7</sup> at once the British Government did not hand over the affairs of administration to his successor Maloji as he was too young to carry the burden of Government. As soon he reached an age of 21 years, on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1917 A.D. the British Government handed over the charge of Government to him. In this stopgap period the British Government run the administration through political Agent, S.M.C. states.

On the day of investiture there was the Dapavali Padya of Hindu Calender.<sup>8</sup> On this day he took four important political decisions concerning his state. They are

1. He forbade the pardha system(veil) which runs long from his ancestors. He allowed Rani Laxmibai to take part openly in all activities.
2. There was a practice that before the family deity a sheep was to be killed in as an offering from his accession Maloji stopped the practice of lathy sheep.
3. He forbade the practice of no entry of lower and depressed class people of the society. He allowed all the people irrespective of their

caste and creed to offer prayers in Rammandir and other temples in the state.

4. Maloji was president of casteless society. It was a platform of meeting of all caste and classes of the people. Hence he edited that in his state there should not be any type of distinction between the high and lower class or rich and poor people.

The above radical changes he introduced in his state and strictly implanted them under his personal supervision. In this concern his queen Laxmibai stood with her husband and her contribution for the success of the above social reforms is not less.<sup>9</sup>

She herself became an example and appeared before the audience in the court. She daringly abolished the paradha system became first example in th state to curse it. As such she also encouraged the implementation and practice of above reforms in future.<sup>10</sup>

#### **DIRECT ADMINISTRATION OF MALOJIRAO (1917 A.D. to 1935 A.D.): -**

The British Government had handled over the authority of Phaltan state to Maloji on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1917 A.D. as soon he reached the age of 21 years. In this first phase of ruling i.e. from 1917 A.D. to 1935 A.D. I humbly tried to give details of important events of his reign.

He assumed power in the age where the subjects treated their ruler as god. However Maloji did not act as autocratic ruler. He was humble, benevolent and just towards his subjects. He did not follow the practices of his neighboring Rajas, who acted and dictated their orders on the subjects. He provided equal opportunities and privileges to all his subjects. In april 1920 A.D. Maloji formed an advisory Council from the Administrative Officers and Headmen of the Society. This Advisory Council gave important suggestions in the state matters. There was no bar for any subject of his state to seek his audience. In case of complaints he redressed the grievances of the plainoff after ascertains the proper facts. Thus he gave justice to his subjects.<sup>11</sup>

#### **PHALTAN STATE AND FIRST WORLD WAR: -**

When Maloji ascended the throne of Phaltan state, the first world war was already in progress. It was started in 1914 A.D. and continued upto 1918 A.D. At this time India was totally subjugated by the British Governments. The Indian princely states provided all kind of moral support and men money to Great Britain in this Great War. Like other native rulers Maloji provided war loan and sent his soldiers in the war for the support of England.

In the year 1917-18 A.D. the Raja Maloji advanced a loan of Rs.2,93,135 to the British Government.<sup>12</sup> This loan he collected from his subjects. The British Government paid it with accrued interest on loan to the Raja and in turn his subjects received their amount.

#### **AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT: -**

After resuming authority Maloji bent for agriculture reforms in his state. at this time the work of Nira Right bank canal had begun. He paid attention for development of agriculture, which was the main profession of the majority of the people. In 1925 A.D. the work of Nira Right bank canal was completed. As a result agriculture development speedily began. The production of commercial crops like sugarcane was ample.

Towards improvement of economic position of the farmers he introduced co-operative movement in his state. he used to say that pure blood was essential for Healthy up keep of body likewise agriculture development was essential for good economic position of the state. hence he paid his heed with all power and endeavors for the development of agriculture in his state.<sup>13</sup>

For the improvement of the financial conditions of the farmers in his state. Maloji introduced the following reforms.

1. He provided the irrigation facilities for the improvement of agriculture.
2. He advanced sufficient capital for agriculture improvement.
3. he constructed dams and through which the lands were irrigated. He gave seeds, fertilizers, bullocks, agricultural implements and poisons to the farmers. Through all above help the financial position of the farmers had grown.
4. he tried to avoid the middlemen who accrued maximum benefits and the farmers who left with nothing. He made such an arrangement that the *pucca* products of the farmers were sold out directly in the market and the farmer would receive big benefits. Thus the middle men were gradually removed.
5. He started the co-operative markets in the state through which the products were purchased in proper rates. By which the farmers got benefit.
6. The farmers were illiterate. Hence he gave them scientific knowledge of agriculture, poultry farms, dairy management etc. he opened the institutions to train the farmers in these fields. Through this reform the financial conditions of the farmers improved.

**CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT: -**

With a view to get rid of money lenders from the state, Maloji encouraged the co-operative Movement. He encouraged establishment of co-operative credit societies and banks. Through these financial societies on minimum interest loan was advanced to the pleasants were freed from the money lending class, who sucked their blood.

**THE PHALTAN BANK (1918 A.D.): -**

As soon Maloji ascended the throne he undertook financial reforms. There were the joint stock companies on the Register during the year 1934-35 A.D. "The Phaltan bank Ltd." a public company doing banking business established on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1918 A.D. with an authorized capital of Rs.1,00,000 divided into 2000 shares of Rs. 50 each.<sup>14</sup>

The aims and objects of the Bank are mentioned in the annual report of 1927-28 A.D. of Phaltan state. Maloji states " I shall now turn to say a few words about the general progress of my state since my coming to the Gadi in 1917 A.D. My state has chiefly an agricultural population and is unfortunately visited by frequent famines. The amelioration of the condition of the agriculturists and bringing them economic relief naturally received my first attention. As a first attempt, I inaugurated the co-operative movement societies and providing capital for them with a low rate of interest. A bank



called "The Phaltan bank" was established on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 1918 A.D. for this purpose. Being a joint stock company and mainly under the control of the marchants, the rate of interest could not be lowered as expected and hence the societies did not show much progress.<sup>15</sup>

**THE PHALTAN SHRI LAXMI CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE BANK  
(1926 A.D): -**

In the year 1925 A.D. the completion of the Nira Right Bank canal, the need of adequate provision of capital became intensified and looking to the limited sources of the state and the general condition of its merchant class. I thought it necessary to adopt a different plan. I am glad to say that with the sumathies of both the Bombay and Indian Government. I was able to get a sanction for raising the loan of Rs. 6 lakhs from the Bombay provincial co-operative bank Ltd. In order to finance a central co-operative Bank proposed to be established here. I was materially helped in achieving this by your excellency especially and by the hon'ble Mr.Dehalvi and the register of co-operative societies Mr.J.A.Madan I.C.S. I immediately established a Bank called "The Phaltan Shri Laxmi Central Co-operative Bank Ltd." In February 1926 A.D. with a capital of Rs. 2 lakhs more than of which is already subscribed. The Bank in its first year has transacted

business upto nearly five lakhs and a number of societies has now reached forty eight.<sup>16</sup>

This bank provided loan facilities to the small co-operative credit societies and other banks. In a number of villages the Bank and credit societies Maloji established. In the state co-operative societies of Dhangar community whose profession was blanket making and a co-operative society of sari weaving workers.

One of these is at Barad. It was a Dhangars society for weaving coarse wollen blankets. The other is a sari weaving society. It is not yet working well. The Barad society was visited by Mr. V.S. Bhide I.C.S. register C.S. Bombay to dated 28<sup>th</sup> November 1927 A.D. whose remarks are given below.

“I am glad to visit this society today. It is very satisfactory to note that the society is working very satisfactory to note that the society is working very satisfactorily and the members are realizing the advantage of having a society in their village. Weaver’s societies are generally not very successful but I am pleased to find this society an exception to this rule.”<sup>17</sup>

There are two limited societies. One of these is Namdeo Shimpi’s co-operative society formed by the members of the Shimpi community. It is making steady progress. The other is the recently formed society for the sale of agricultural produce and has been referred to already. The other societies

i.e. the salary Earners and the trade and shop-keepers are working fairly well.<sup>18</sup>

In the state ,the Phaltan Bank and the Laxmi Central co-operative Bank were prominent Financial Institution. Shri. S.M. Dani was the president of the Laxmi Central Co-operative Bank. He strived hard for the financial transactions and giving credits to the other societies and people in general about financial institutions were running on sound pattern. The official visitors from the neighboring state gave satisfactory reports and appraised its working.

The chief Saheb of jath paid visit to the Bank during date of 10<sup>th</sup> June 1927A.D. and they expressed their satisfaction about the institution. The following are remarks they passed.

“I was greatly pleased to see the work done by the institution for the welfare of the Phaltan state subjects in such a systematic and sympathetic way, which is very creditable to the Phaltan state authorities.”<sup>19</sup>

The chief Saheb of Sawantwadi paid visit to the Bank during date of 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1927 A.D. and they expressed their satisfaction about the Institution. The following are remarks they passed,

“ The bank has during the brief period since its establishment done very good work and made very great progress. I feel sure that the bank has a

great future before it with the advent of the canal and the keen personal interests taken in its activities by the ruler.”<sup>20</sup>

In the field of co-operative movement there was name of Shri. Vaikuntbhai Mehata on the tongue of every person. He was Managing Director, the Bombay Provincial co-operative Bank Ltd. He visited the Laxmi Central Co-operative Bank. He praised the progress and working of the said bank in following words.

Although I have been interested in the Central bank ever since its inception stage, this was my first visit to the bank from what I saw of its working. I can unhesitatingly saying that its management reflects great credit on all concerned and that the standard of efficiency to which it has worked during the last few months compares most favorably with that achieved by some central banks in the Bombay presidency which have been in existence for even five years or more.<sup>21</sup>

In this way Maloji encouraged co-operative movement in his state. he solved the financial constraints of the farmers. In this co-operative movements the Phaltan bank and Laxmi Central Co-operative bank share is larger.

**IRRIGATED LAND OWNERS SANGH (1926 A.D.): -**

After completion of construction Nira Right Bank Canal, the growth of commercial crops in the state was ample. Hence the water tax was raised. To decrease the water tax, the irrigated land owners sangh had come into existence. They demanded justice. Its president was Shri. V.B. Deshpande.<sup>22</sup>

**OPENING SALE-SHOP OF SEEDS, MANURES AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS (1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 1927 A.D.): -**

Under the authority of Shri. Laxmi central Co-operative Bank, Phaltan a shop of seeds manures and agricultural implements was opened on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1927 A.D. this information was cited in the annual report of 1926-27 A.D. It reads as following:

“Another and an important one, as a step in the spread of the movement was the opening of a sale-shop of seeds, manures and agricultural implements at the hands of G.W. Hakhesar C.I.E. I.C.S. commissioner C.D. When yourself and g.F.S. Collins Ear C.S. register C.S. Bombay presidency were also kind enough to be present and helped the proceedings. I need not describe hoe the people had gathered in large numbers and the whole proceeding was a success. The occasion for the opening of such a shop arose as there grew up in the year a demand for good cotton seed, since the people had found their experience of the small cultivation that they had attempted

last year. Following the lead of the Bhimthadi and Malashriras talukas and this function was particularly arranged to encourage such cultivation by obtaining selected seed etc. through the Co-operative branch of the state.<sup>23</sup>

#### **EDUCATION: -**

Malojirao was a man of foresight. He learnt the importance of education. Hence in addition to agriculture and co-operative movement, he paid his equal attention for development of education. He passed number of orders for implementing educational reforms in the state.

#### **COMPULSORY EDUCATION ACT (1918-19 A.D.): -**

For improvement of literacy and education in the state Maloji passed compulsory education act in 1918-19 A.D. When he came to know that through state a number of schools were established, even though the people of state remained uneducated. They did not come forward even to educate their off-springs. Hence with a view to provide compulsory education Maloji was compelled by situation for the benefit of his subjects, passed this act. In 1918-19 A.D. there were 38 schools and high schools in the state. the strength of pupil was 1895. for putting more students in the school he passed this act.

This act had came into force on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1918 A.D. In the beginning this act was enforced in the Municipal limits of the Phaltan city.<sup>24</sup>

This was a revolutionary step in the field of education. As a practical measure he made compulsory education in the Municipal limit as experimenter. Then he thought of extending the same act in the rural areas. As a result in the Municipal strength increased. The admission in the school was given to boy or girl of 6 years. Hence in 1931-32 A.D. the strength of primary schools in Phaltan state was increased to 2445 at the expenditure of Rs. 25030/- in the proceeding year.

In Mudhoji High school of Phaltan the strength of students increased in 7 years. In 1919 A.D. the strength was 179 and in 1922-23 A.D. increased to 239.<sup>25</sup>

State governing body (Mandal) was established in the state. By which the physical education act was passed in 1930 A.D.<sup>26</sup>

#### **YUVRAJ PRATAPSINH POOR BOYS EDUCATION FUND LTD.: -**

The provision has also been made for giving facilities to the education of poor boys by starting a co-operative society called YUVRAJ PRATAPSINH POOR BOYS EDUCATION FUND LTD. It is hoped that this will prove highly useful to those for whom it is intended.<sup>27</sup>

In this way upto 1935 A.D. educational development took place. The progress of education is noted in the Annual Report of 1934-35 A.D. is cited.

“During the year under report 1934-35 A.D. Raosaheb K.V. Godbole Diwan and home member was in charge of the educational department.

The number of schools at the end of the year was 62 as previous year. The total number of pupils attending these schools was 3442 as the previous year. The average daily attendance was 2518.9 in the previous year.

Primary education is given free throughout the state. secondary education is also given free to girls and the Harijan students and comparatively moderate fees are charged to others.

The total expenditure on public instruction in the state amounted to Rs.32929.00

During the year under report the Durbar instituted a scholarship of Rs. 15 per month known as the Shri. Maloji scholarship as an encouragement to the higher education of students passing their matriculation examination from the Mudhoji High School, Phaltan.”

#### **SECONDARY EDUCATION: -**

The Mudhoji High School Phaltan established in Phaltan established in the beginning of 1895 A.D. is maintained by the state. it is permanently affiliated to the university of Bombay. It is also a center for the drawing Examinations held annually by the Inspector of Drawing and Craft-work Bombay Presidency, Bombay.



Mr. S. K. Kanetkar M.A.S.T.C. headmaster whose services had been lent by the deccan education society Poona. For a period of nearly four years, having reverted to his former service Mr. G.K. Deshmukh M.A.L.L.B. was appointed headmaster from the beginning of the year under report. There were 7 graduate teachers out of 14 teachers on the staff of the High School.

The total number of pupils at the close of the year (1934-35 A.D.) was 227. 37 girls attending the High School.<sup>28</sup>

#### VISIT OF SIR JADUNATH SARKAR

In Mudhoji High school Phaltan number of intelligent persons visited. Among them the name of Sir Jadunath Sarkar is important. He visited the High School in 1932 A.D. He surveyed the administration and working of the Institution. He discussed the educational problems with the teachers. He appraised the working of the High school and wished all success. Thus this event is to be written in the golden lines in educational History of Phaltan state.

Sir Jadunath Sarkar was one of the distinguished visitors of the High School in the year 1931-32 A.D. he was pleased to remarks as under : -

“ I visited this school in the afternoon of 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1932 A.D. and was pleased to observe the general improvement effected in the grounds and surroundings the garden carefully laid out and new branches of activity for

the benefit of the students. It makes a distinct advance on the state of things, as it was two years ago during my first visit to Phaltan. The spirit of alertness and devotion to duty which I noticed in the staff and the bright healthy look of the boys and their admirable orderliness and attention, impressed me very favourably. So as far as I can judge the Headmaster and his colleagues deserved credit for raising this school in an out of the way town to such a high and promising level.<sup>29</sup>

#### **ORDER EDUCATIONAL REFORMS: -**

To head the department of education in the state a post *Nyaya Mantri* had been created. On this Shri S.M. Dani was posted. He was responsible for looking after educational development in the state.

The work of administration and supervision of village schools is entrusted to the deputy Educational Inspector of Phaltan. Mr. S.M. Dani B.A.L.L.B. the *Nyaya Mantri* who is in charge of the education portfolio visited many of the schools by way of general inspection during the year under report and enlisted the sympathies of village officers and illiterate parents towards the cause of village education.<sup>30</sup>

In 1907 A.D. free education was given to the pupils. Maloji encouraged female education. Specially he provided facilities for education of women. Therefore female education ratio increased in the state.

**SCHOLARSHIPS :-**

In the state the intelligent and deserving students were helped by providing scholarship. They are as follows:

1. In 1921-22 A.D.(school leaving examination)
2. Maloji scholarship and Shri Laxmi Scholarship: -

The government of Phaltan in its proceeding No.9 dated 4<sup>th</sup> July 1934 A.D. enlisted scholarship in the Gazette that a student who passed in all subjects was provided with scholarship for higher education.

On 1<sup>st</sup> June 1934 A.D. the Durbar Instituted 7 scholarships known as the Shri. Laxmi scholarships of the total monthly value of Rs. 25 to encourage the students in their studies.

STANDARDS	AMOUNT(Rs.)
1	2
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	4
6	5
7	5

The above-cited scholarship is known as Laxmi scholarship.

**SHRI MALOJI SCHOLARSHIP: -**

In the matriculation examination conducted by Bombay University a student who stood first was provided with Shri. Maloji scholarship for higher education in any affiliated College of the University of Bombay. This Scholarship was Rs. 15/- per month.<sup>31</sup>

In the state the teachers were appointed looking to their abilities qualification and dedication to work hard in the field of education. The graduate teachers were sent for further education of B.T. course. This information is noted in annual report of 1932-33 A.D.

During the year 1932-33 A.D. a vernacular trained teacher of the high school was sent to the S.N.D.T. women's college Yerandawana Poona. For being trained in the modern methods of teaching and one graduate teacher passed the S.T.C. examination.<sup>32</sup>

**THE BOYS SCOUTS ASSOCIATION (1928-29 A.D.) : -**

As stated in the year 1928-29 A.D. report the scout movement has been receiving special attention from school authorities. The work of training the scouts is being training the scouts is being enthusiastically carried out under the supervision of a specially qualified scoutmaster. The

boy scouts association Phaltan is registered and is affiliated to the provincial “ Boy scouts Association” Bombay. It is progressing well and is proving its utility in social functions. The troop consists of 120 scouts and is known as ‘SHRIMANT YUVRAJ PRATAPSIKH TROOP’.The investiture ceremony of which was performed on the dasara day by Shrimant Chief saheb, when Yuvraj Pratapsinh alias Bapusaheb the leader of the troop took the scouts promise.”

At the time of political agents visit to the state for the inauguration ceremony of the Legislative Council on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 1929A.D. Boys scouts rallies were arranged. The following remarks passed by Mr. J Monteath I.C.S. political agent Satara, will testify to the success of the movement.

“I visited the maiden today with the Chiefsaheb and S.Ranisaheb, and saw an excellent display of exercises, singing andsignaling by the Boy scouts. There are at present about 120 of them, and their efficiently speaks very well for their scout master and others concerned in encouraging and developing the movement I hope it will continue to spread.”

The boy scouts played an important part and rendered excellent service at the time of the Agricultural exhibition, Health and baby week

shows in recognition of which they were accorded medals by Shrimant S.Ranisaheb.<sup>33</sup>

#### **MALOJIRAO AS A LIBERAL PATRON: -**

Malojiaro was an intelligent and highly cultured and educated ruler of state. he patronized the learned men hailing from his own and neighboring states. He was liberal and generous. He donated amounts to the research centers, colleges, schools, high schools and other institution of educational concern. By generosity the greatness of Maloji can be presumed.

He invited and rewarded to many scholars and learned personalities coming from different parts of India. Mention may be made of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, Maharshi Annasaheb Karve and others.

The donation Malojirao Paid to the different educational Institution is mentioned in 1922-23 A.D. to 1934-35 A.D. it is followed as under:<sup>34</sup>

**DETAILS OF DONATIONS FROM SHRIMANT MALOJIRAJE: -**

Sr. No.	YEAR	DONATION In Rs.	INSTITUTION	DONATION In Rs.
1	1922-23A.D.	4120/-	1.Wilingdon College Sangli.	1000/-
			2.Red Cross.	200/-
			3.Poona camp Education Society.	5/-
2	1923-24A.D.	3981/-	1.Govardhan Institution Mahabaleshwar.	200/-
			2.King Edward Education Memorial Hospitality	360/-
			3.New Education society,Kolhapur.	300/-
			4.Deccan Maratha Education Society, Poona	120/-
			5.Hindu Gymkhana Mahabaleshwar.	1000/-
3.	1924-25A.D.	2710/-	1.Wellingdon Sports Club	25/
			2.Willingdon College, Sangli.	1000/-

			3.American Mission Building Hadpsar.	1000/-
4.	1925-26A.D.	4115/-	1.Furgeson College, Poona	1500/-
			2.President agro show fund	700/-
			3.The Art and Crafts Exhibition, Poona.	100/-
			4.Willingdon college	1000/-
5.	1926-27A.D.	3141/-	1.Sir Leslie Wilson Hospital Fund	2000/-
			2.Army in India Polo Fund	50/-
			3.Exhibition of Girls School Hand work	100/-
			4.Raigad Dharamshala fund	200/-
			5.V.G.Kulkarni, Private English School,	101/-
			6.Servants of India Society fund.	300/-
			7.Shivaneri Jirnodhar Committee, Poona	50/-
			8.Editor Jagruti Baroda	50/-
			9.The Shivaji tercentenary	90/-



			tercentenary Celebration committee.	
			10.Expenses of the Chancellors office establishment	200/-
6.	1927-28A.D.	4016/-	1.Bharat Itihas Sanshodhak Mandal,	1250/-
			2.Poona Seva Sadan Society.	1000/-
			3.Lady Wilson Maternity Association.	500/-
			4.Gujrat Relief Fund.	500/-
			5.Sir Leslie Wilson Hospital Fund.	50/-
			6.Deccan Maratha education association,	210/-
			7.Kshatriya Maratha Dnyati Samaj,	200/-
			8.Savata Mali boarding,	100/-
			9.Kanyashala ,Wai.	51/-
			10.The Arts and Crafts and Exhibition	25/-

			and Exhibition Committee, Poona	
			11.Poultry Exhibition	20/-
			12.Sadadashiv Mahadev Divekar, Proprietor Shiva Bharat	50/-
			13.Hari Gangadhar Patki, Retired Vernacular Teacher Poona for books	25/-
			14.Murlidhar Shankar Deshpande for his book Vakrutwa Kala Phaltan	5/-
7.	1928-29A.D.	2261/-	1.Karve Jubilee Fund	100/-
			2.Hindu High School, Panchgani.	300/-
			3.Bhandarkar Research Institute, Poona	500/-
8	1929-30A.D.	4228/-	1.Art Exhibition Poona	25/-
			2.Bhandarkar Oriental	500
			3.The Govardhan Mela	10/-
			4.Kanyashala, Wai	5/-

			4.Kanyashala, Wai	5/-
			5.His Majesty's Tanks giving fund	200/-
			6.Mr.Godubai Ketkar P.A. Satara in appreciation of her excellent treatise on <i>Bharatiya</i> <i>Natyashastra</i>	50/-
			7.Shri.Chattarpati Shivaji Maharaj Tercentenary Birthday celebration committee	10/-
			8.Lady Wilson village Maternity Association Dist.Satara.	500/-
			9.Maratha Granth Sangrahalya Poona.	150/-
			10. Mudhoji Club Phaltan.	200/-
			11.Maratha Boarding, Phaltan.	150/-
			12.Victoria Diamond Jubilee Library Phaltan	90/-
			13.Agriculture Exhibition Phaltan	500/-

			14. Health and baby Week shows Phaltan	250/-
			15. Shri Sagunamata Maternity Home Phaltan	1380/-
9.	1931-32 A.D.	2207/-	1. The Bhandarkar Oriental Research	500/-
			2. Wanless Sanatorium Miraj.	500/-
			3. Prof. K.R. Kanitkar for expenses in	500/-
			4. The Deccan Maratha Education Association	120/-
			5. The Deodhar Diamond Jubilee	50/-
			6. Rural Uplift Conference Khed	50/-
			7. Kanyashala Wai.	51/-
			8. The Bombay New Dumb and deaf	25/-

			Dumb and deaf Institution.	
			9.The Art Exhibition Satara.	10/-
			10.Mudhoji Club Phaltan	200/-
			11.Fine Art Exhibition Society Satara	10/-
			12.Shri. Sagunamata Maternity home Phaltan.	101/-
			13.Victoria diamond Jubilee Library Phaltan	90/-
10.	1932-33A.D.	2826/-	1. Bhandarkar Oriental	9
			2.The Alienation Office	200/-
			3.The Village	500/-
			4.The Maharashtra	50/-
			5.Indian Women's	1000/-

			Union, Poona	
			6.Kanyashala, Wai.	51/-
			7.Mudhohi club, Phaltan	200/-
			8.Victoria Diamond Jubilee Library, Phaltan	200/-
			9.Jagruti Newspaper Baroda.	25/-
			10.Y.D.Pendharkar alias Yashwant Kavi	50/-
			11Prof.V.K.Rajwade for his work words in Rigveda	50/-
11.	1934-35A.D.	6326/-	1.The Bhandarkar Oriental Research	500/-
			2.Mudhoji club, Phaltan	200/-
			3.Victoria Diamond Jubilee Library,	90/-
			4.Shankar Jayram Ahivale, Harijan	15/-
			5.Mir Munshi Muhammad Ismail	25/-

			Muhammad Ismail Bahadur, Poona	
			6.H.E. the viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund.	200/-
			7.The Training College for Men, Poona Health Fund	25/-
			8.Mr.Krishnaji Keshav Patke, Phaltan	100/-
			9.The Municipal School Board , Phaltan	20/-
			10. The Gokhale Memorial Hall Building Fund Poona.	301/-
			11.Shaikh Muhammad Umar Phaltan.	225/-
			12.The Indian States Bulletin ,Poona.	600/-
			13.Their Majesties Silver Jubilee Fund India:- i. For the organization of the fund For Celebration Purposes	3000/-  1000/-

			14.The Harijan Boarding Phaltan.	25/- <sup>1</sup>
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Maloji granted donations to the above institution and helped them to grow educationally by all means. It is crystal clear that Maloji wanted to witness educational progress in general. He granted to institutions of Sangli, Kolhapur, Poona, Mumbai, and Satara etc. He encouraged by donations research activities conducted at Bharat Itihas Sanshodhak Mandal Poona and the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona.

**THE KISHORSINH MOTOR SERVICE COMPANY (1926A.D.): -**

The Kishornath Motor service Company was established in 1926 A.D. to commemorate the memory of the rulers eldest son Shrimant Kishorsinh Bapusaheb who died in March 1924 A.D. The Company's buses run every day from Phaltan to Poona, Pandharpur, Lonand and Baramati. The buses thus connect Phaltan to Lonand the nearest railway station of the Madras and southern Maratha Railways and the important cities of Poona and Pandharpur and the nearest trading town of Baramati in the Poona district. The company also carries the postal mails between Lonand and Natepute on the mahad-Pandharpur road, a distance of about 40 miles. The average daily run of the company's buses is 800 miles. The fared are fixed. The regularity and general efficiency of the company are commendable. The company has its own workshop where the necessary repairs to the motorbuses are done.<sup>36</sup>

Lt.Col. K.A.G. Evance-Gorden C.I.E. resident visited the company's workshops on February 15, 1940 A.D. during his visit to Phaltan the resident observed in his remarks in the visitors Book:

“the Company still command the support of the public as indeed they are fully entitled owing to their strict adherence to time schedule, the maintenance of a thoroughly efficient staff and their solicitude for the comfort of their passangers. This letter is exemplified in the new type of

motor bus which was privileged to inspect this morning and which appears to be the last word in comfort.<sup>37</sup>

### **KISHORNATH MOTORS FARES: -**

#### **Phaltan to Poona Road**

FROM	TO	ROAD FARES
PHALTAN	LONAND	0-8.0
PHALTAN	NIRA	0-10.0
PHALTAN	WALHA	0-12.0
PHALTAN	JEJURI	0-14.0
PHALTAN	SASWAD	1-0.0
PHALTAN	POONA	1-4.0

#### **Poona to Phaltan road**

FROM	TO	ROAD FARES Rs.
POONA	SASWAD	0-4.0
POONA	JEJURI	0-8.0
POONA	WALHA	0-10.0
POONA	NIRA	0-12.0
POONA	LONAND	1-0.0
POONA	PHALTAN	1-4.0

**Phaltan to Pandharpur road**

FROM	TO	ROAD FARES Rs.
PHALTAN	NATEPUTE	0-10.0
PHALTAN	MALASHIRAS	0-12.0
PHALTAN	AKALUJ	0-14.0
PHALTAN	WELAPUR	1-0.0
PHALTAN	PANDHARPUR	1-4.0

**Pandharpur to Phaltan road**

FROM	TO	ROAD FARE RS.
PANDHARPUR	WELAPUR	0-6.0
PANDHARPUR	AKALUJ	0-8.0
PANDHARPUR	MALSHIRAS	0-10.0
PANDHARPUR	NATEPUTE	0-12.0
PANDHARPUR	PHALTAN	1-4.0
PANDHARPUR	BARAMATI	0-10.0

The Kishoresingh Motor Company gave service in field of transport in the state. It served up to 1948 A.D. and then the state transport service started. The facilities were provided to the people in state. Without any sort of trouble and difficulty the people enjoyed the journey with their bag and

baggage's even to this day the people remembered reforms of Maloji and pray for resting of his soul.<sup>39</sup>

#### **THE KISHORESINH ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY: -**

The Kishoresinh Electric supply Company supplies electricity to the town of Phaltan and has thus added considerable to the amenities of the capital town.<sup>40</sup>

Kishoresinh Motor service Company had it's branch of Kishoresinh Electric Company. It provided power to the Phaltan municipality. It had power house near the city. In this power house the electricity was generated through the diesel engines. The Phaltan municipality used this power for street and road lights in the city.<sup>41</sup>

#### **VISIT OF MR.WILSON GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO PHALTAN (1927 A.D.): -**

The year 1927 A.D. is an important year in the history of Phaltan state as in this year the governor of Bombay presidency visited Phaltan on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1927 A.D. with his wife lady Wilson. This was his official visit to the state.

Malojirao gave warm and affectionate welcome to this celebrated guest of honor. He organized a function and served food to the guests. He rewarded a certificate of honor to his guest.

Mr. Wilson the governor of Bombay presidency gave report about the Administration of Phaltan in the annual report of 1927-28 A.D. During the year under report the most notable visitors, whom the chief Saheb had the pleasure of receiving at Phaltan were his excellency the governor and lady Wilson, who paid their first visit to this state on 28<sup>th</sup> of October 1927 A.D. At the cordial invitation of the chief Saheb. No other Government had paid a visit to the state for nearly half a century since Sir James Ferguson in 1881 A.D.

“His excellency and lady Wilson were received by the chief Saheb and political agent Mr. Brander, at the Lonand station at 8.45 A.M. The chief saheb presented the state officials and garlanded. Their excellencies, who then motored to Phaltan to receive the municipal address at 9.30 A.M. After their arrival a salute of 17 guns was fired and the, state guard of honor was inspeted by his excellency, accompanied by the chief Saheb and political agent. Then followed the presentation of the municipal commissioners. The address was read by the president Rao Bahadur G.V. Joglekar, then the *Karbhari* of the state, offering hearty greetings and tendering cordial welcome to their Excellencies to their first visit to this historical place. Admiration was expressed for his Excellencies popular sympathetic and liberal conduct of public affairs in the presidency proper. And graceful

tribute was paid to the noble example of lady Wilson, inspiring various movements in the presidency for the relief of suffering masses and for the amelioration of the condition of the poor women and children of the country. The address then went on to point out with pride the steady progress made by this institution under the (benign) rule of the late chief Saheb and also the liberal and sympathetic policy of the present ruler, who has been taking keen interest in its affairs and is giving it free scope and help to carry out works of public utility.<sup>42</sup>

**SHRI SAGUNA MATA MATERNITY HOME PHALTAN (1928 A.D.): -**

Shri. Saguna mata mternity Home, Phaltan was started as a charitable institution on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 1928 A.D. mainly through the efforts and kind patronage of Shrimant Saubhagyawati Laxmidevi, Ranisaheb of Phaltan; the home is named after the most revered Rani shri Sagunabai alias Aaisaheb Naik Nimbalkar (1777A.D.-1791 A.D.) known for her piety and benevolence. The home is located in a fine and airy building just outside the town. The services of a full-time nurse are available. The chief medical officer supervises the medical working there off. He is assisted by a secretary and a non official committee which looks to the general management. The numbers of cases admitted for delivery during the last six months in the home were 11,all of which were successful.

The institution was visited by the past and present political agents and H.H. the chief Saheb and S. Rani Saheb of Sangli, who were pleased with the arrangements. It is expected that the institution will be increasingly popular day by day. A free medical clinic is attached to the home. It is attended by a state doctor and is providing its advantage; the average attendance being 30.<sup>43</sup>

#### **PHALTAN STATE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL(1929A.D.): -**

Shrimant Maloji was liberal and just ruler. Hence he respected words of the people. He never dictated and acted independently. His rule was for the well being of his subjects. Therefore the share and part of the people we see in his administration. In 1928 A.D. Maloji declared that he intended to give responsible Government to the people, hence he established the legislative council to rule the state in accordance with wish and will of the people.<sup>44</sup>

In this Legislative Council Malojirao appointed a member belonging to depressed class. He provided an opportunity to him to sit and eat together with other members of the highest cadre of the society. It was really a daring and courageous attempt of Malojirao that even in the council he treated the High and low equally.



Regarding Legislative council the details are given in the state Gazette of Phaltan state published between

## GOVERNMENT OF PHALTAN STATE ACT, 1929

(Act I of 1929 as amended by acts I and VI of 1931)

promulgated on the day of Ganesh Chaturthi Shaka 1851(7<sup>th</sup> September,1929) under the authority of Shrimant major Malojirao Mudhojirao alias Nanasaheb and *Jagirdar*, chief of Phaltan.

### **(An act to provide a constitution for the government of the Phaltan state)**

Whereas it was declared on the day of Ganesh Chaturthi,Shaka 1850 (17<sup>th</sup> September 1928 A.D.), by a *Huzur* proclamation that the establishment of responsible government in the Phaltan state is the ultimate goal of the Phaltan Durbar :

And whereas this policy is in conformity with the modern ideas of government, and with the policy of the British government in India:

And whereas progress in giving effect to this policy can only be achieved by successive stages:

And whereas the time and manner of each advance can only be determined by the chief of Phaltan upon whom responsibility lies for the welfare and advancement of the peoples of the Phaltan state:

And whereas it is expedient that the first steps in this direction should now be taken by the establishment of an executive and a Legislative Council in the Phaltan state:

Be it enacted by chief of *Phaltan* and under his authority as follows: -

## PART I

### THE PHALTAN DURBAR

1. The words "Phaltan Durbar" or "Durbar" shall mean the chief of Phaltan together with his executive council; and in respect of the powers, privileges and rights inherent in him as ruler of the state or exclusively reserved to him by this act, the chief of Phaltan alone.
2. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Phaltan Durbar shall have and perform all such and the like powers and duties relating to the government or revenues of the Phaltan state, and shall have all such and the like powers over all officers and servants of the state, as if this Act had not been passed, might or should have been exercised or performed by the Chief of Phaltan alone in relation to that Government or those revenues.  
  
(2) In particular, the Phaltan Durbar shall, subject to the provisions of this Act or Rules made there under, superintend, direct and control all

acts, operations and concerns which relate to the government or revenues of the Phaltan state.

#### THE RAJA OF PHALTAN

(3) The Phaltan state being vested hereditarily in the Naik Nimbalkars, Deshmukh and *Jagirdar*, is ruled by and in the name of the Chief of Phaltan has been exercising and and may hereafter be entitled to exercise, may , subject to the provisions of this Act, be exercised and in the name of the Chief of Phaltan as rights incidental to the Ruler of the state.

(4) The political relations of the Durbar with the British Government in India, and with the other Indian states, and all questions appurtenant thereto shall be in the exclusive power of the chief of the Phaltan though he may, if he thinks it advisable, consult his Executive Council in any such matter.

(5) The chief of Phaltan alone may, in cases of emergency or when the safety tranquility or interests of the Phaltan state, or any part thereof are, or may be, in the judgement of the chief of Phaltan, essentially affected, exercise all the powers of the Phaltan Durbar; but he sha;; immediately communicate all orders under this section to his Executive council for the information.

(6) The Chief of Phaltan may, in cases of emergency, make and promulgate Ordinances for the peace and good government of the Phaltan state; and any ordinance so made shall, for a period of not more than one year from its promulgation, have the like force of law as an Act passed by the Phaltan state Legislature.

(6A) The Chief of Phaltan shall have the power to veto any decision of his executive Council.

(7) The Chief of the Phaltan state as the ruler of the stateshall, during any contingency, have power to appoint a person to exercise all or any of his powers; but the ultimate responsibilities will nevwertheless remain with the Chief of Phaltan.

(8)The chief of the Phaltan alone shall have power to make amendments to this Act.

#### THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

(9) (1) The Chief of Phaltan, in the interest of good Government of the state, shall establish an Executive Council consisting of not more than three members, one of whom shall be the Dewan of the state.

(2) The Chief of the Phaltan shall appoint or remove the members of his executive Council, but while issuing orders of dismissal he shall record his reasons for such an action.

(3) Any member of the Executive Council may, by writing signed by him, and submitted to the Chief of Phaltan, resign his office. The instrument of registration shall be recorded in the minutes of the Council.

(4) A vacancy in the Executive Council caused by dismissal, resignation or death of any member or by any other cause, shall be filled up by the Chief of Phaltan within a month from the date of such vacancy.

(5) The salary of Members of the executive Council shall be from Rs.200/- to 500/- *per mensem* according to the pleasure of the Chief of Phaltan.

(6) Members of the Executive Council shall be entitled to pension as follows: -

(a) if the member is a permanent servant of the state, his pension will be determined according to the pension rules of the state;

(b) if the member is not in the permanent service of the state, he may be given a pension, if the Chief of Phaltan so directs-provided he (i) has completed five

years of service as such member, and (ii) is not a pensioner elsewhere.

(10) (1) The Dewan of the state shall be the president of the Executive Council, with power to vote.

(2) The Chief of Phaltan shall appoint a Member of his executive Council to be the Vice-President thereof.

(3) At every meeting of the executive Council, the President or, in his absence, the Vice-President shall preside.

(11) (1) Meetings of the executive Council shall be convened and held as and when the president or, in his absence, the Vice-president directs.

(2) Ordinarily the Executive Council shall assemble at any place in the Phaltan state appointed by the President of the Council may with the permission of the Chief of Phaltan call a meeting outside those limits.

(3) The decisions of the Executive Council shall ordinarily be arrived at in a regular meeting; but they may also be

arrived at by calling for the written opinions of the Members if the President thinks it advisable to do so.

(12) At any meeting of the Executive Council the President or the Vice-president and one member of the council may exercise all the functions of the Phaltan Durbar.

(13) (1) All orders and other proceedings of the Executive council shall be expressed to be made by the Phaltan Durbar, and shall be signed by the president or the vice-president, as the case may be, and when so signed shall not be called into question in any legal or other proceeding on the ground that they were not duly made by the Phaltan Durbar.

(2) The chief of Phaltan may make rules and orders for the more convenient transaction of business in his Executive Council, and every order made or act done, in accordance with such rules and orders, shall be treated as being the order or the act of the Phaltan Durbar.

(14) The decision of the majority of the members present at any meeting Council shall be the decision thereof, and in cases when they are equally guided thereof the president, or the Vice President, as the case may be, shall have a second or casting vote.

(15) The decisions arrived at every meeting of the Executive Council shall be at once communicated to the Chief of Phaltan, by the President or the Vice-President, as the case may be.

(16) In cases where decisions of the Executive Council are arrived at in a meeting when some members are only present, they shall be submitted to the chief of Phaltan for confirmation.

In other cases the unanimous decisions of the Executive Council shall ordinarily be binding on the chief of Phaltan, unless he deems it fit to exercise his powers of veto under Section 6 A.

In case of a difference of opinion between the members of the Executive Council the Chief of Phaltan may, if he thinks fit, approve of them or send them back( with his views thereon if so desired) for reconsideration by the executive Council and the decisions then arrived at by the Executive Council, whether unanimously or by a majority, shall only be subject to the general powers of veto by the Chief of Phaltan under section 6A.

(16) A. No person other than the Chief of Phaltan shall have the right to be present at a meeting of the executive Council.

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## PART II

## THE LEGISLATURE

17. (1) The Phaltan state Legislature shall consist of the Chief of Phaltan and the Phaltan state Legislative Council.

(2) The Phaltan state Legislative Council shall consist of the members of the Executive Council, and of the members nominated or elected as provided by sub-section (4) of this section.

(3) The Chief of Phaltan shall have the right of addressing the Legislative Council, and may for that purpose require the attendance of its members.

(4) The number of members of the Phaltan state Legislative Council shall be as shown below;

	MEMBERS	NUMBER
1	EXECUTIVE COUNCILLERS	3 OR 4
2	NOMINATED- (1) OFFICIALS (2) NON- OFFICIALS	2 OR 1 5
3	ELECTED	9

TOTAL

1 19

Provided that-

- (a) rules made under this act may provide for increasing the number of members of the Legislative Council fixed by this section, and may vary the proportion which the classes of members bear one to another, so however, that at least forty-five percent of the members of the Legislative Council shall be elected members, and at least one-half of the other members shall be non-official members;
- (b) the Chief of the Phaltan may, for the purpose of any Bill introduced or proposed to be introduced in the Phaltan state Legislative Council, nominate not more than two persons having special knowledge or experience of the subject-matter of the Bill, and those persons shall, in relation to the Bill, have the period for which they are nominated all the rights of members of the council, and shall be in addition to the number above referred to.

(5) The powers of the Phaltan state Legislative Council may be exercised notwithstanding any vacancy in the council.

(6) Subject as aforesaid, provision may be made by Rules under this Act as to-

- (a) the term of the office of nominated members of the Phaltan state Legislative Council, and the manner of filling casual vacancies occurring by reason of absence of members from the state, inability to attend to duty, death, acceptance of office, resignation duly accepted, or otherwise; and
- (b) the conditions under which and the manner in which persons may be nominated as members of the Phaltan state Legislative Council; and
- (c) the qualification of electors, the constitution of constituencies, and the method of election for the Phaltan state Legislative Council, including the numbers to be elected by the different electorates, and any matters incidental or ancillary thereto; and

- (d) the qualifications for being or for being nominated or elected a member of the Phaltan state Legislative Council; and
- (e) the final decision of doubts or disputes as to the validity of any election; and
- (f) the manner in which the rules are to be carried into effect.

18. (1) The Phaltan state Legislative council shall continue for three years from its first meeting:

Provided that-

- (a) the council may be sooner dissolved by the Chief of Phaltan; and
- (b) the said period may be extended by the Chief of Phaltan for a period not exceeding one year, by notification in the Phaltan State Gazette, if in special circumstances (to be specified in the notification) he so think fit; and
- (c) after the dissolution of Council the Chief of Phaltan shall appoint a date, not more than one year from the date of dissolution, for the next session of the Council.

(2) The Chief of Phaltan may appoint such time and places for holding the sessions of the Phaltan state Legislative Council as he thinks fit, and may also, by notification or otherwise, prorogue the Council

2 (a) The Phaltan state Legislative Council shall be surrounded to meet once at least in every year.

(3) Any meeting of the Phaltan State legislative Council may be adjourned by the person presiding.

(4) All questions in the Phaltan State Legislative Council shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present other than the person presiding, who shall however, have and exercise a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.

19. (1) There shall be a President of the Phaltan state Legislative Council, who shall be a person appointed by the Chief of Phaltan from among the members of the Council.

(2) There shall be a Deputy-President of the Phaltan State Legislative Council, who shall preside at meetings of the Council elected by the Council and approved by the Chief of Phaltan.

(3) The appointed President of the Council shall hold during the life of the Council, but he may resign office by writing signed by him, and submitted to the Chief of Phaltan, or may be removed from office by order of the Chief of Phaltan, or any vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term of office of the President shall be filled by a similar appointment for the remainder of such term.

(4) The Deputy-President shall cease to hold office on ceasing to be a member of the Council, but he may resign office by writing signed by him, and submitted to the Chief of Phaltan, and may be removed from office by a vote of the Council with the concurrence of the Chief of Phaltan.

20. An official shall not be qualified for election as a member of the Phaltan State Legislative Council, whether elected or nominated, accepts any office in the service of the State, his seat on the Council shall become vacant.

21. The following provisions shall have effect with respect to business and procedure in the Phaltan State Legislative Council: -

(1) The estimated annual expenditure and revenue of the State shall be laid in the form of a statement before the council in each year, and the proposals of the Durbar for the appropriation of the revenues and other moneys in any year shall be submitted to the Council for discussion.

(2) Nothing in the foregoing sub-section shall require proposals to be submitted to the Council relating to the following heads of expenditure: -

- (i) contributions payable by the Durbar to the British Government; and
- (ii) installments of and interests on loans incurred before the commencement of this Act; and
- (iii) expenditure of which the amount is prescribed by or under any law; and
- (iv) salaries and pensions payable to the Gazetted Officers of the state and sanctioned as such by the orders of the Chief of Phaltan under this sub-section; and

- (v) sums payable to the Relatives and Dependents of the Chief of Phaltan; and
- (vi) amounts payable to the Khasagi department on the following accounts : -
  - (a) Deshmukhi and Isafati Haks; and
  - (b) Nemnuk from the state at 15 per cent of the gross revenues of the state

(3) If any question arises whether any proposed appropriation of moneys does or does not relate to the above heads of expenditure, the decision of the Chief of Phaltan shall be final.

(4) Where any Bill has been introduced or is proposed to be introduced, or any amendment to a Bill is moved or proposed to be moved, the chief of Phaltan may certify that the Bill or any clause of it, or the amendment affects the safety or tranquility of the state, and may direct that no proceedings or no further proceedings shall be taken by the Council in relation to the Bill, clause or amendment, and effect shall be given to any such direction.

(5) Provision may be made by rules under this Act for the purpose of carrying into effect the foregoing provisions of this



section and for regulating the course of business in the Council, and as to the persons to preside over meetings thereof in the absence of the President and Deputy-President, and in the preservation of order at meetings; and the rules may provide for the number of members required to constitute a quorum, and for prohibiting or regulating the asking of questions on and the discussion of any subject specified in the rules.

(6) Standing Orders may be made providing for the conduct of business and the procedure to be followed in the Council, in so far as these matters are not provided for by Rules made under this Act. The first Standing Orders shall be made by the Chief of Phaltan, but may, subject to the assent of the Chief of Phaltan, be altered by the Phaltan state Legislative Council. Any standing Order made as aforesaid, which is repugnant to the provisions of any Rules made under this Act, shall, to the extent of that repugnancy but not otherwise, be void.

(7) Subject to the rules and standing orders affecting the Council, there shall be freedom of speech in the Phaltan state Legislative Council. No person shall be liable to any proceedings in any court by reason of his speech or vote in the

said Council, or by reason of anything contained in any official report of the said Council.

22. (1) the Phaltan state Legislature has power subject to the provisions of this Act, to make laws-

(a) for all persons, for all courts, and for all places and things, within the State; and

(b) for repealing or altering any laws which for the time being are in force in the State.

(2) It shall not be lawful for any member of the Phaltan state Legislative Council to introduce, without the previous sanction of the Chief of Phaltan, any measure-

(a) affecting the public debt or public revenues of the State, or imposing any charge on the revenues of the state; or

(b) imposing or authorizing the imposition of any new tax, cess, rate, duty or fee; or

(c) affecting the Watan, Inam or Saranjam tenures; or

- (d) affecting the religion or religious rites and usages of any class of Phaltan State subjects; or
- (e) affecting the maintenance of order and discipline in the state; or
- (f) affecting the relations of the Durbar with the British Government or with the other Indian states; or
- (g) affecting any power expressly reserved to the Chief of Phaltan or the Phaltan Durbar by any law for the time being in force; or
- (h) repealing or amending any Act or Ordinance made by the Chief of Phaltan.

23. (1) When a Bill has been passed by the Phaltan State Legislative Council, the Chief of Phaltan may declare that he assents to or withholds his assent from the Bill

(2) If the Chief of Phaltan withholds his assent from any such Bill shall not become an Act.

24. When a Bill has been passed by the Phaltan state Legislative Council, the Chief of Phaltan may, instead of declaring that he assents to or withholds his assent from the Bill, return the Bill to the Council for reconsideration, either in whole or in part, together with any amendments which he may be pleased to recommend.

25. The resolutions passed by the Phaltan state Legislative Council shall be of a recommendatory character, and the Phaltan Durbar shall be free to use their discretion in accepting or rejecting them.

26. (1) A law made by the Phaltan state Legislature shall not be deemed invalid solely because the requisite proportion of non-official members was not complete at the date of its introduction into the Council or its enactment.

(2) A law made by the Phaltan state legislature and repugnant to any provision of this act shall, to the extent of that repugnancy, but not otherwise, be void.

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PART III

SUPPLIMENTAL

27. Where any matter is required to be prescribed or regulated by Rules under this act and no special provision is made as to the authority by whom the Rules are to be made, the Rules shall be made by the Chief of Phaltan, and shall not be subject to repeal or alteration by the Phaltan state Legislature.

28. the Phaltan State Legislative Council shall have power to suggest amendments, cancellations or innovations in the rules made under the provisions of this Act, but all these suggestions will be of a recommendary character.

[ The expression "Rules" includes Rules and regulations made under the provisions of this act.]

29. This act may be cited as the "Government of Phaltan State Act, 1929."<sup>45</sup>

**INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE PHALTAN STATE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (17<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 1929 A.D.) : -**

In the annual report of 1929-30 A.D the inauguration of the Legislative Council of the Phaltan State are given below:

“ The most important event of the year was the grant of the new reforms to the state was suggested in the year 1928-29 A.D. administrative report. The government of the Phaltan state Act No.I of 1929 A.D. was promulgated on 7<sup>th</sup> September 1929 A.D. and both a Legislative and an Exclusive Council was established on that day. Mr. J. Monteath I.C.S., the political Agent, satara performed the Inauguration ceremony of the Phaltan state Legislative Council on 7<sup>th</sup> September 1929 A.D. The gathering was fully representative and included many distinguished guests from outside. His excellency the governor of Bombay was pleased to send a congratulatory message which was read by the political Agent to the great satisfaction of all assembled. The full texts of the speech made by the Chief Saheb and political Agent containing His excellency's message are given below:

**THE MESSAGE**

“ I desire to send you, Meherban Malojirao Naik Nimbalkar, Chief of Phaltan, and to the members of the Phaltan state Legislative Council my congratulations on the auspicious occasion of the Inauguration of the Council.

By its celebration you, the Ruler of the state of Phaltan, have shown your desire that the constitutional development of the state should keep pace with the political progress of India as a whole, and your wish to associate your subjects with the conduct of the affairs of the state.

It is for the members of the Council to show, by the manner in which they make use of the powers entrusted to them, the wisdom of the steps now taken and to justify, as I trust they will, the transfer of further authority and functions. I wish the legislative Council of the state of Phaltan, success.

I esteem it a great honor that you have asked me, chief saheb to inaugurate this Council today. For me it is a matter of great good fortune that my first visit to your state should be connected with so important an event in its history. As you have told us, Phaltan is one of the oldest, if not the oldest state in the deccan. For many generations it has flourished under the rule of your ancestors, and no one could say that their rule has not served to benefit the subjects of the state. but even before the Great war, times were changing

and the events that occurred during the years 1914 A.D. to 1918A.D. and their consequences down today have affected almost every corner of the world. It has not been long before changes that naturally first occurred in British India in territories directly under the supervision of H.M. the King emperor have had their repercussions in Indian states. It was eminently desirable in words of H.E. that the constitutional development of the Phaltan should keep pace with the advance of ideas and with political aspirations of your people as well as with the political progress of India as a whole."

You ascended your Gadi when the war was at its crisis and everything seemed to be in the melting pot. It is greatly to the credit of your administration during the past 12 eventful years that no whisper of discontent or unrest has been heard from your territory. But there can be no doubt that you are wise in foretelling, as you yourself say, and any dangers that might result from ideas now prevailing throughout the world. And I must heartily congratulate you on the wise step you are taking today.

I must also congratulate the members of the Council on the great opportunity for benefiting their fellow subjects with which the Chief Saheb is providing them. As has been said, advance on the lines initiated today must depend on the quality of the work of the members of the Council and their sense of responsibility. If they see that in representing the interests of



their constituents they are themselves animated by a spirit of altruism and are guided by a desire to improve the condition of their fellow subject as a whole and not only by sectional interest that might work to the disadvantage of a greater number that might be benefited by their policy, there is no doubt that they will assist the ruler in extending the degree of representative Government that may safely be adopted in the state. they have therefore a great responsibility but also a great opportunity for beneficial work.

I repeat, therefore. Chief Saheb that I feel much gratitude for having been invited here to inaugurate this most important reforms. As you have said, I am here not in my personal capacity but rather as the local representative of the British Government, to works which you and your ancestors your subjects can boast of a record of unswerving loyalty from the message which I had the honor of reading at the beginning of my remarks, it will be clear to all here that. H.E. as the King Emperor's representative has a personal great interest in the success of this measure which I have been asked to inaugurate I can not do better than repeat his wish that you. Chief Saheb and the Legislative Council of the Phaltan state may have all success.<sup>46</sup>

**AGRICULTURE EXHIBITION (1929A.D.): -**

Malojirao was the first ruler who paid attention towards development of agriculture through his Govt. he supplied seeds agriculture implements with a view to provide knowledge to the peasant. He organized an exhibition in Phaltan on 10<sup>th</sup> October 1929 A.D. The Gazette of Phaltan gives the exhibition's report.

**PHALTAN STATE GAZZETE 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 1929 A.D. : -**

From 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1999A.D. Maloji organized agriculture exhibition. The Nira Right Bank canal gave plenty of water for the fields. Hence the scientific knowledge to the farmer was essential with regards to agriculture.

In this exhibition the, milk yield animals, animals working in the fields and water drawing engines were displayed. The persons who contributed important articles were rewarded.

The exhibition was organized at a place in the Phaltan which is 16 miles from Lonand station in southern Maratha railways which falls on Poona-Pandharpur road.

THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS WERE CREATED IN THE EXHIBITION: -

1. Fruit section
2. Vegetables
3. Fruit products
4. Sugarcane
5. Grains and Seeds
6. Vanasapti
7. Cotton
8. Agriculture research
9. Milk and its products
10. Fertilizers
11. Bombay presidency Agriculture section
12. Lake-whiting Divisions
13. Special irrigation
14. Agriculture implements
15. Co-operative section <sup>47</sup>

To educate pleasant in the field of agriculture and irrigation Maloji organized such type of many exhibitions in the state. Since 1883-84 A.D. at Chichani village of Kolhapur state annually such exhibition was held in

which all the 18 S.M.C. states took part. Among them the state of the Phaltan was one.

**THE PHALTAN LOCAL BOARD (1931 A.D.): -**

The Phaltan local board is constituted under the Bombay local Board Act (VI of 1923 A.D.) as amended by the Phaltan state Act V of 1931 and was established in June 1931 A.D., there was no time to hold elections to form to general Body of the local Board. Therefore the Durbar nominated all the members of the Board for the first three years. The Board consists of 20 members.

**FIRST BODY OF LOCAL BOARD OF PHALTAN STATE WORKING COMITEE: -**

1. Ramkrishna Hari Bhadkamkar- President.
2. Nages Vishwanath Bavadekar- Vice President.
3. Amarsinh Raosaheb Chavan.
4. Govind Krishna Tatke.
5. Dr. Dattatray Manohar Badwa.
6. Ganesh Manohar Date .
7. Vinayak Dhondder Dubale.
8. Motilal Nataram Doshi.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

1. Sankar Keshav Kanetkar- Chairman.
2. Baba Maruti Kakade.
3. Jijaba baburao Gaikwad.
4. Shaikh Papa Raju (Muslaman).
5. Govind Krishna Tatake.
6. Dhondirao Khandoji barge.
7. Motilal Naturam Doshi.

**HEALTH COMMITTEE: -**

1. Mr. Dattatray Manohar Badve-Chairman
2. Mr. Keshavrao Raghunathrao Naik Nimbalkar
3. Mr. Motilal Naturam Doshi
4. Mr. Dhondiram Khandoji Barge.
5. Mr. Shaikh Papa Raja (Musalman)
6. Mr. Jijaba Babuaro Gaikwad.

The Durbar activities of the board during the first year of its existence as regards Education, Medical, Relief work, Sanitation and education and vaccination have been noticed in their proper places. The receipts of the local Board amounted to Rs. 52154 and the expenditure incurred during the year to Rs. 48849.<sup>48</sup>

**THE TARADGAON VILLAGE PANCHAYAT (1931 A.D.): -**

Malojirao started village Panchayat in every village of the state. through this Panchayat the needs and requirement of the villages were fulfilled. The first Panchayat Samiti was established at Taradgaon in 1931 A.D. The report is given in the Phaltan state gazette:

On 15<sup>th</sup> September 1931 A.D. Maloji pursued political agent Mr. Turner Saheb, who inaugurated the building of one school and village Panchayat at Taradgaon.<sup>49</sup>

The Taradgaon *Panchayat* was established on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1931 A.D under the village *Panchayat* Act 1920 A.D.( Bombay Act IX of 1920 A.D.) in force in the state. The *Panchayat* consists of 10 members elected by the people of the village. Mr. Jijaba Baburao gaikwad is the *Sarpanch* and Mr. Moro Abaji Kakade the secretary of the *Panchayat*.

The *Panchayat* continued to do considerable useful work in the year 1931-32 A.D. report in connection with road lighting, improvement of the roads drainage and general sanitation.<sup>50</sup>

**SUGARCANE RESEARCH STATION PADEGAON (1931 A.D.): -**

By the Nira Right Bank canal water for irrigation increased to maximum extent in the state. Malojirao has appointed enquiry committee for the farmers because the canal was started in 1925 A.D. but the farmers did

not use the water. To look into this Maloji appointed a committee of enquiry. This committee recommended establishing new sugar factory at Phaltan because India needs more Sugar. In accordance with recommendation of this committee Maloji started Sugarcane research center. This information is cited in Phaltan state annual report of Phaltan State year 1935-36A.D.

“The Government of Bombay has started a Sugarcane research station at Padegaon in this state from the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 1931 A.D. It is under the management of the department of Agriculture Bombay. The main object of the institution is to foster Sugar cane cultivation in the canal area. The experimental farm, which has an area of 105 acres, lies within the state territory and the laboratories just outside it. There are three sections in the scheme, each worked under the expert in the line

- (1) Soil section under Dr. J.K. Basu M.Sc.(cal) Ph.D. (Lond.) Soil physicist.
- (2) Physiological section under Dr. R.D. Rege B.A.(Hons.) M.Sc. (Bom.) Ph.D.(Lond.) crop physiologist.
- (3) Agricultural management section under Rao Saheb B.P. Vagholkar, L.Ag., who is in charge of the whole scheme. The government of India are going to spend Rs. 5 Lakhs for the research station within a period of five years.

It is expected that the research work will give a great impetus to the Sugarcane cultivation in the state and thus developed the canal irrigation.<sup>51</sup>

#### **THE PHALTAN SUGAR WORKS LTD. (1933 A.D.): -**

In 1925 A.D. the Nira right Bank canal started in Phaltan state. as a result there was increased in irrigational fields and production of Sugarcane crops. Hence Maloji felt the need of Sugar factory in the state. then he began attempts to establish the factory.

In 1929-30 A.D. to start a Sugar factory at sakharwadi Maloji talked with Shrimant Saith Mafatlal and Apte. Maloji provided financial concession to them and encouraged them to start the paid factory. In this talk Dr.R.H. Bhandarkar tried hard which led to establishment of Sugar factory.

In annual administration report of Phaltan state of 1932-33 A.D. the information is given as under:

“ The noteworthy event during the year report is the establishment of a private registered limited Company with a capital of Rs. 10,00,000 for the manufacture of sugar at Pimpalachiwadi within the limits of the state.the factory building is being constructed in reinforced concrete and is estimated to cost about a lakh and half rupees. The work is rapidly progressing and the plantations of cane are being taken in hand when the full working of the factory will commence, it will crush 400 to 500 tons of cane per day.<sup>52</sup>



The Phaltan Sugar Works Ltd. Was incorporated at Phaltan on the 8<sup>th</sup> march 1933 A.D. under the Indian Companies Act, 1913 A.D.(India Act VII of 1913 A.D.) in force in the state. It is a private Company with an authorized capital of Rs. 10,00,000 divided into 10,000 shares of Rs.100 each. The parteners of the concern are messrs

1. Mr. Mafatlal Tagalbhai.
2. Mr. Vaman Shridhar Apte.
3. Nehalchand Laloochand.

There are six directors including three parteners

1. Messrs Kantilal Nehalchand.
2. Pransukhalal Mafatlal.
3. Laxman Vaman Apte.

Mr. Vaman Shridhar Apte is the managing Director and Mr. K.G. Apte B.Sc is the General Manager of the Company.<sup>53</sup>

The Company being a pioneer industrial concern in the state on a large scale, the Durbar have granted it exemptions from export duty, from import duty for fifteen years and from income tax for ten years as some of chief concessions.

The Company's factory was erected in 1933 A.D. at Pimpalchiwadi about 12 miles from Phaltan. It is one of the biggest Sugar factories in the

Deccan. It has its own Sugar cane plantations and it also purchases Sugarcane from the cultivators. During the 1935-36 A.D. season, the factory crushed 49,733 tons of Sugarcane. The Company has maintained a well equipped workshop and a laboratory. The average number of operatives employed daily during 1935 A.D. was 525 during season and 296 during off season. The Company pays attention to the well-being of its employees and has maintained a good water supply and a dispensary.<sup>54</sup>

#### **THE PHALTAN SUGAR WORKS TROLLEY LINE: -**

A trolley line has been laid by the Phaltan Sugar Works Ltd. To carry Sugarcane from the fields of the factory and the goods from Nira Railway station of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway to the factory and vice versa. The length from west to east i.e. from Nira station to Rajala cane estate is nearly 27 miles. There is another line running from the factory to Hol cane Section south to north, of one mile in length. The total length including the branches is 36 miles.

There is also a feeder line about a mile in length near Rajala section.<sup>55</sup>

**POWER CRUSHERS :-**

With a view to help the cultivators a power crushers was installed at the Gokhali village last year to crush the new bwttter yielding but hard varieties of cane. During the year 1940-41 A.D. report three more crushers were installed one at Takalwada, another at Jinti and the third at Hol. An maount of Rs. 68,400 has been spent by the purchase of the machinery constructing engine houses and gun boiling sheds etc.

This is to be recovered from the fees charges on crushing vane and making gul. Cane in 208 ½ acres of land belonging to 105 cultivators was crushed and 7126 boilings were taken during the 1941-42 A.D. season. The fees amounted to rs. 2.8 per boiling was fixed for the season of 1941-42 A.D.<sup>56</sup>

**MALOJIRAO PURCHASED TRACTOR: -**

In 1933 A.D. the Sugar factory at sakharwadi was started working. The increased Sugar-cane crops fed the factory. Peasants rushed for production of sugar Cane only. Malojirao still wanted progress with field of agriculture. He knew that Russian agriculture improved due to use of scientific methods. So he bent to use these scientific methods in his state. he wanted to replace bullocks by use of tractors in the fields. In 1933-34 A.D. he purchased tractor for Rs. 93,000. it was introduced for the first time and it

was beginning of modern method of cultivation in the state. it is said that this tractor was first in the continent of Asia. This is the brief survey of Malojirao's administration from 1917A.D. to 1935 A.D. By above achievements Maloji made his state as model in the whole of India. He introduced modern technology in agriculture, abolished the distinction of caste, given equal share to the people in administration, improved education, social economic condition, irrigation etc. In this period the achievements are highly appreciably. In 1935 A.D. the British Government passed an Act of responsible Govt. Its effect was seen in Phaltan as in other states. After 1935 A.D. the freedom movement geared up, by that time the second world war had begun in 1934 A.D.

The British Govt. passed the Govt. of India act 1935 A.D. In the ensuing elections the Indian national congress took part and it formed the Government.

This is the brief survey of important development took place between 1916 A.D. to 1935 A.D. under the leadership of Malojirao. The study of important events occurred after 1935 A.D. have been cited by me in the next chapter.

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**CHAPTER - VI**

**SHRIMANT MALOJIRAO  
PHASE - II  
(1935 A.D. TO 1948 A.D.)**

**CHAPTER VI**  
**SHRIMANT MALOJIRAO**  
**PHASE II (1935 TO 1948)**

In the last chapter, which comprised the achievements of Maloji from 1917A.D. to 1935A.D., are cited. During this period the political, economical, social and educational or cultural progress was made. During this period the state developed in all respect.

After 1935A.D. the activities of Malojirao had been doubled. His relations with other states had been extended. Due to his achievements Maloji was well-known and popular figure in other states also. He had very cordial relations with the British Govt. The officers often paid visits to the state. Hence in the eyes of the British the prestige of Phaltan and Maloji was held in high esteem.

During this period, in international sphere numbers of changes were taking place. In the countries where dictators were ruling, the people rapidly aspiring for democratic set-up. In the British colonies also the people started movements for freedom. After 1935 again in India also the freedom movement got impetus.

In 1939A.D. the Second World War had begun. In this war England's economic position was shattered. It becomes weak. In 1942A.D. Mahatma Gandhi started Quit India movement. All the national and international events compelled the British Govt. to grant provisional Govt. to the Indians. Later, on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1947A.D. was freed from clutches of the British. According to provisions the Independence Act of 1947A.D. all the states were merged into the Indian Union in 1948A.D. Hence India became a sovereign country.

Maloji was closely watching the above national events. He believed that the alien rule of the British would not last long in India and the rule of people would come in India. In this direction he started working in his state. He therefore from the beginning of his rule itself began to distribute the administrative powers among his subjects. He gradually trained his subjects in the field of democracy and to shoulder the responsibility of the Govt. He started in 1928-29A.D. the responsible Govt. in his state. By passing law in 1942A.D. he empowered exclusively the *Vidhi Mandal*.

Maloji welcomed the formation of democratic set-up in the centre. He merged the state of Phaltan in the Bombay state. After independence he joined the Indian National Congress. As its worker he

worked in the interest of his people and country. He was farsighted ruler and acted according to the tides and situation then emerged.

In this phase from 1935A.D. to 1948A.D. I humbly attempted my best and cited the important events chronologically and according to its importance in the state of Phaltan. These events are discussed in details in this phase.

#### **NARENDRA MANDAL :-**

During the British regime the Indian territories were divided into two parts, one was known as British India and the other The Princely States of India. There were 563 such states in India. The British Government respected the Indian Rajas, and their words were held in great respect. Hence in the Montague-Chelmsford reform of 1919 A.D., the provision was made to have one chamber of Princes in Indian Govt. In 1921A.D. this Chamber had come into being. The Princes Chamber discussed the Political and other matters of neutral concern with the British Govt. The Chamber of Princes met once in a year under the headship of Viceroy of India. The Chamber of Princes had a Chancellor elected from among the representatives of the state. Among Indian states groups were existed as the state of Southern India, from every such group the representation was there in the Chamber of Princes.

From 1931A.D. to 1939A.D. Maloji was chosen as the representative of Satara group III to lead in The Chamber of Princes.<sup>1</sup>

This responsibility Maloji shouldered with great abilities. He worked in general for the welfare of states. He was one of the intellectual members of The Chamber of Princes. After 1939A.D. his representation was given to the Raja of Jath. This information is given in A.R. of 1939A.D.-1940A.D. It states thus:

“Shrimant Rajesaheb was a representative members in the Chamber of Princes since 1931A.D., representing Group III consisting of Bhor, Akalkot, Aundh, Phaltan, Jath and Suragana states. Shrimant Rajesaheb did not seek re-election in October 1939A.D. and Shrimant Rajesaheb of Jath was returned unopposed to represent Group III.<sup>2</sup>

After becoming the representative of Satara Group he processed England to take part in III Round table conference in 1933A.D. He put forward the problems of the Indian states before Indian minister and joint parliamentary committee. Along with him his Diwan Shri. K.V.Godbole and daughter Rajkumari Sarojini Devi alias Akkasaheb went to England. In the A.R. of 1933A.D.-1934A.D. gives details of journey of Maloji, his daughter and The *Diwan*.<sup>3</sup>

“ The Ruler of Phaltan sailed for England on 27<sup>th</sup> of May 1933 A.D. by the P&O streamer, S.S. Narkunda for being present in London at the time of the hearing of evidence before the joint select committee on behalf of the Rulers of Akalkot, Aundh, Bhore, Kurundwad Senior, Jamkhandi, Miraj Senior, Miraj Junior, Phaltan and Ramdurg States in the Satara and S.M.C. Groups of the Deccan. Shrimant Rajkumari SaRajani Devi alias Akkasaheb accompanied him during this visit”.<sup>4</sup>

During the Rulers absence in England, Shrimant Saubhagyavati Laxmi Devi, Ranisaheb of Phaltan, was invested with the Rulers Powers of administration. Her father Shrimant Raje Shambhusing Jadhavrao, first class Sardar of Malegaon Budruk in the Poona District was kind enough to advise her during the period.<sup>5</sup>

“ The most noteworthy event of political importance during the year was the transfer of political relations of the state from the Bombay Government to the Government of India from the 1st of April 1933 A.D. in accordance with the recommendations made in the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms scheme. Representations in this respect had been made to the Government of India for a long time and it is a matter of satisfaction that the change is now effected and this state is brought into political relations with the Government of India from the above date through the Agent to the

Governor General for the Deccan States and Resident of Kolhapur.”<sup>6</sup> It is because of dynamic leadership of Maloji, the prestige of Phaltan State in British India was raised. It was due to his efforts the state was in good books of British Officers. He had good relation with the Viceroy of India, Governor of Bombay Presidency, Collector of Satara and political agent of Kolhapur.

“His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General was pleased to confer on the ruler (Maloji) the hereditary title of *Raja* on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1936A.D.”<sup>7</sup>

#### **DIWAN BAPUSAHEB GODBOLE: -**

Diwan K. V. Godbole alias Bapusaheb was born on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1889A.D. He was educated in New English School and Ferguson College of Poona. He passed L.L.B. in 1917A.D. In Isalapur began his legal practice. After working for 4 years in this field, on 21st October 1921 he was appointed as first class Sub-Judge in Phaltan. Later he was appointed as settlement officer, Huzur-Chitnis, and registrar co-operative society. On such important posts he worked. Owing to his experience and caliber was conferred as the Diwan of Phaltan State by Maloji in 1931A.D.<sup>8</sup>

Maloji sent him to take part in second round Table Conference in England. In Annual Report of 1931-32A.D. this information is noted,

“The Diwan of this state Mr. K. V. Godbole, was sent to England by the ruler to be present in London to watch the proceedings of the second session of the Round Table Conference, its Principal committee, the federal structure committee and other committees. The ruler (Maloji) thought it was a matter of most importance to the Indian states in general and especially the smaller states that they should be fully alive to the changes that were likely to follow the conference. Hence he thought it desirable that the Diwan of the states should be fully in touch with the trend of events and the implications of the contemplated changes. Accordingly the Diwan sailed on the 25th December 1931 A.D. by mail steamer S.S.Mooltan. During his stay in London he was fortunate enough to receive help from every quarter.”<sup>9</sup>

Mr.K. V. Godbole Diwan of this state, was deputed the ruler of Phaltan to be present in London to watch the proceedings of the third Round Table Conference , London.<sup>10</sup>

He again went to England in the month of May for the purpose of giving evidence before the joint select committee on the behalf of the ruler of the states referred in the preceding paragraph, being allowed to appear as witness for the ruler of Phaltan, who as representative of the rulers of these states, was invited to give evidence before the committee.<sup>11</sup>



His Excellency the Viceroy and acting Governor General were pleased to confer the title of 'Rao Saheb' as a personal distinction upon Mr. K. V. Godbole, *Diwan* of the state in the birthday honoured lits on fourth June 1934 A.D.<sup>12</sup>

**GOVERNOR GENERAL'S VISIT TO PHALTAN STATE (OCTOBER 1936) : -**

In 1927A.D. the Governor of Bombay, Mr. Wilson visited Phaltan. He was pleased and appreciated the reforms of Maloji in administration of state. Then in 1936A.D., the Governor of Bombay Mr. Breborn gave some concessions and facilities to the states, which are noted below.

Maloji looking to the interest of state refused humbly to pay tax on sugar-factory of Sakharwadi. He pleaded with his Diwan before the Governor that, the factory was in his state, hence he was entitled to levy tax on it and not the British Government. Hence his plead was accepted, It led to increase of resources of the state in lakhs.

Breborn, the Governor told the people that in England while participating in The Round Table Conferences Maloji had rendered great service to his people.<sup>13</sup>

“I had a personal knowledge of the high reputation which the Rajesaheb and his able Diwan had established for themselves and their state in London by their Public spirit and selfless work.”<sup>14</sup>

#### **PHALTAN STATE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (1937A.D.): -**

The wife of Maloji Smt. Laxmibai Ranisaheb strived hard to ameliorate conditions of women in the state. From 1917A.D. the *paradha* system was forbidden. Women were allowed to take part in all Public function. She herself appeared in audience of the Royal Durbar.

The establishment of Sagunabai Maternity Home was one of the best works in the service of woman folk. Irrespective of castes and religions women were admitted and treated in this home free of cost. She admitted her daughter in a public school; by this we learn that she was stalwart of equality. She set her own example from the very door of Royal Palace. In December 1936A.D. in Ahmedabad a conference of woman was convened. She participated in this convention and discussed widely the problems of women. In 1937A.D. she became President of the Marathi Mahila Parishad , Ahmednagar.<sup>15</sup> She worked for the upliftment of women within state and without.

In the Palace of Man Mohan she made arrangements of Adult education for women. Owing to her services, in particular for The women

and her subjects in general the Emperor of England George IV awarded her gold medal and a first class title of Kaisare-Hind on 9th June 1938A.D.<sup>16</sup>

On 17th March 1937A.D. She founded the Mahila Mandal in Phaltan. In Annual Report of 1941A.D.-42A.D. her services were registered.

The Phaltan Sansthan Mahila Mandal was inaugurated on the 17th March 1937A.D. under the auspices and initiative of Shrimant S. Lady Laxmidavi Ranisaheb of Phaltan who was its permanent president with the allowed objective of promoting all sided development of women. There were 282 members on the rolls of the Mandal belonging to all castes and creeds.

The classes in the Marathi and English instituted in Phaltan for the education of adult women have been working satisfactorily. Two literacy classes started in Phaltan were showing good progress. 60 adult women took advantage of these classes. Literacy classes started in the villages of Vidni and Pimprad had also been working well.

“Many members of the Mahila Mandal meet every fortnight and an informal discussion takes place about some useful subjects. Useful and instructive articles from various magazines are read for their information. Lectures on various subjects of general interest are also arranged from time to time. Libraries have been opened at Phaltan, Vidni, Pimprad and Gunavare to encourage reading amongst adult women. A lathi-

class was conducted for ladies by Shahir Ninivadekar and about 30 ladies took advantage of this class. A Hindi class was successfully conducted at Phaltan for three months and availed of by 25 ladies. A course of twelve 'first aid' lectures had been arranged and 22 ladies attended this course.

A store of articles useful to women is conducted by the Mandal on a co-operative basis. The sales are managed by women volunteers.

"A branch of the red cross society was inaugurated by Mrs. Edwards, the wife of the Resident for Kolhapur and Deccan states. The work party of the society is doing good work by sewing, knitting and sending cloths to wounded Indian Soldiers. Hospital comforts such as slings, handkerchiefs, tray cloths, pillowcases, shorts, jug covers and surgeons masks are sent to the Red Cross."

"The Phaltan Durbar has encountered the work of the Mandal by reserving one seat for women in the nominated members of the Phaltan state Legislative Council and by declaring literate women to be qualified to vote at the elections of the members of the Legislative Council of the state. An Annual grant of Rs. 500 was sanctioned by the Phaltan Darbar to the Mandal and it received Annual grants of Rs. 300 and Rs. 100 from the Phaltan State Local Board and Shri. Laxmi Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Phaltan, respectively. It also gets help from other institutions.<sup>17</sup>

After merger Phaltan State in Indian Union, she did not leave her services to women folk. In 1955A.D. she took Akhil Bharti Shrtri Parishad at Phaltan for a year.”<sup>18</sup>

She was a president of Prof. Karve Seva Sadan Society in Poona. Malojirao helped financially to this society. For the building of the society Maloji paid Rs. 10000 in 1940-41A.D.<sup>19</sup>

She was great eloquent speaker. Through her speeches she advocated that on equal footing the women folk could claim their rights. Rani Saheb was of religious nature. She had belief on Gnaneshewar Saint. She constructed Shree. Gnaneshewar temple in Phaltan.<sup>20</sup>

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS OF MALOJI CITED IN THE GAZZETTEER OF 1936A.D.: -**

For the knowledge of the people in general the achievements of Maloji in the state and outside state are given in the Gazette of 1936A.D. they are as follows:

Salute to Shrimanth Sarkar Major Raja Malojirao Mudhujirao alias Nanasaheb Naik Nimbalkar Raje Saheb Phaltan State.

- (1) He constituted a constitution for the state.
- (2) Establishment of a Local Board.
- (3) Establishment of Kishoarsinh Motor Service Company.

- (4) Nira Right Canal Construction in agreement with the British Government.
  - (5) Help and encouragement to the farmers for improvement of agriculture and its production.
  - (6) Establishment of central co-operative bank and founding the co-operative agricultural societies in the state.
  - (7) Establishment of sugar factory.
  - (8) Free education works and related.
  - (9) Teachers were given training in B.T
  - (10) Provided Hygienic drinking water for the city of Phaltan.
  - (11) Paid attention and actively participated in the political affairs of the southern States.
- 
- (2) (1) The Achievements of Laxmidevi raised prestige of Maloji. Her work in the field of women education equality health are noteworthy.
  - (2) Sagunamata Maternity home was opened.
  - (3) In Mudhoji High school Women education was encouraged.
  - (4) Pardha system was abolished.<sup>21</sup>

**SARVADHARMA BHAVANA: -**

In the state of Phaltan, the people belonging to different castes and religious were living. He treated all his subjects equally because he was liberal and pragmatic ruler. Most of the traders in the state belonged to Jain religion. In their functions he actively took part and with great heed he used to listen the tenants of Jainism. Maloji had inclination towards Jainism. It seems that he had great regard for its founder Vardman Mahavira.

On the birthday of Mahavir, the founder of Jainism, he observed an *Ahinsa Day* (Day of Non-violence) on 12th April 1938 A.D. At the request of the secretary, Humanitarian League, Bombay Killing of animals on this day prohibited throughout the state.<sup>22</sup>

**SECOND WORLD WAR AND PHALTAN STATE: -**

The Foreign Policy of Adolf Hitler and Beneto Mussoloni caused great unrest in Europe and the whole world thus to curb their onslaught the World War II had been started.

The Indian states were well-wishers of the British Govt. At this critical juncture and time all the states stood by the British Govt. At once they agreed to give help in men and money to the British Govt. Maloji had good relationship with the British Govt. Hence he came forward in bad times

and helped British from 1939A.D. to 1945A.D. and he gave moral and fiscal support. He dispatched new recruits from his state to fight the Great war in support of England.

In the Annual Report of 1939A.D. to 1945A.D. Maloji's help to British Govt. is cited.

"The most outstanding event of the year is the declaration of war between Great Britain and Germany on Sunday the 3rd September 1939A.D.

His majesty the King-Emperor sent the following message to India's Princes and people, which was delivered by H.E. the Viceroy to the joint session of the Central Legislature at the Simla Monday the 12th September 1939A.D.

In these days when the whole of civilization is threatened, the wide spread attachment of India to the cause in which we have taken up arms has been a source of deep satisfaction to me. I also value most highly the many and generous offers of assistance made to me by the Princes and People of India. I am confident that in the struggle upon which my people and I have now entered, we can count on sympathy and support from every quarter of the Indian continent in the face of common danger. Britain is fighting for no selfish ends but for the maintenance of a principle vital of the



future of mankind- the principle that relations between civilized states must be regulated not by force, but by reason and law, so that men may live free from the terror of the war to pursue the happiness and well-being which should be the destiny of mankind.”<sup>23</sup>

In the Gazette of 1939A.D. the content of telegram wired by the King of England to Maloji are noted. In vice-versa the Diwan of state assured the British Govt. that all kind of help would be provided to them.<sup>24</sup> The contents of compliance letter is given below.

“His Majesty’s message was communicated to the *Diwan* by the Resident. Wide publicity was given to the message by republishing it in the Phaltan Durbar Gazette, Extraordinary dated the 12th September 1939A.D. The following telegraphic reply was sent by *Diwan*

“ All deeply touched by His Majesty’s gracious and inspiring message. Giving at most publicity to it, it is a curious coincidence that this message should have come just after Shrimant Raja Saheb appealed to his subjects in his opening address to Phaltan Legislative Council to give best to righteous cause taken up by Britain which was whole – hearted responded to by the council in the form of an unanimous resolution. Shrimant Raja Saheb hopes you will kindly convey this spontaneous of loyalty to his Excellency.”<sup>25</sup>

Shrimant Malojirao assured the British Resident that he and his subjects stood by the British Govt. in these critical movements. It reads thus, “ On the eve of the outbreak of war Shrimant Raja Saheb offered to place all his humble resources at the disposal of the crown should necessity arise. Shrimant Raja Saheb wrote to the Resident-

“ Disturbing news is constantly coming in which leads to but one conclusion viz. that war is to be forced upon England, in spite of all her efforts for peace. The situation is no doubt as tense as it ever could be and no one can tell how soon the conflagration may break out. In the event of such a catastrophe befalling England and The British Empire, there is but one duty, which every one high and low in the Empire owes to His Majesty i.e. King Emperor and it, is to place all ones resources at His Majesty’s disposal to bring the war to a great successful end.

I most respectfully offer to place at the disposal of the crown all my humble resources should the necessity unfortunately arise. My state doubts a small one. But as I have said above, it is everybody’s duty to come forward to do one’s utmost in such circumstances.

In his address to the Phaltan state Legislative Council on September 11, 1939A.D. Shrimant Raja Saheb appealed to his subjects to give their best help to the righteous cause taken by Great Britain. He

informed the Council that Britain had spread no effort to avoid the calamity that now threatens the world. But it could be of no avail with the dictators who considered resource to force as the only arbitrament of all international disputes. Shrimant Raja Saheb made it clear that Britain in this war was fighting for no selfish ends, but for Principles vital to the future of humanity Principles of international justice and morality, in short, to destroy the rule of force and the turnnous regime of the dictators. This appeal was whole-heartedly responded to by the council in the form of a unanimous resolution to help Great Britain in every possible way in prosecuting the war.

Shrimant Raja Saheb in his letter to the Resident dated 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1939A.D. announced a monthly contribution of Rs. 1000 to H.E. the Viceroy's war purpose fund from the beginning of the war until its conclusion.<sup>26</sup>

1939-40A.D. H.E. the Viceroy's war purposes fund Rs. 6000/-<sup>27</sup>

1940-41A.D. H.E. the Viceroy's war purposes fund Rs. 12000/-<sup>28</sup>

1941-42A.D. H.E. the Viceroy's war purposes fund Rs. 12000/-<sup>29</sup>

1942-43A.D. H.E. the Viceroy's war purposes fund Rs. 12000/-<sup>30</sup>

Malojirao had contributed a war loan of Rs.4, 00,000/-. He raised that amount from the people. The people purchased war bonds for Rs.

1,00,000/-. In addition the officers and new recruits numbering totally 264 were sent to Europe to fight war.<sup>31</sup>

By the defeat of Germany in 1945A.D. the Second World War had been ended. During the course of Great War as the other states in India, the state of Phaltan helped the British Government in all respect. Totally from Phaltan state Rs. 6,00,000/- was contributed in the war.

#### **VISIT OF IMPORTANT PERSONALITIES TO PHALTAN: -**

During this phase important personalities of India visited the capital of state. Among them mention may be made of Mahatma Gandhi, Prof. D. K. Karve, Dr. Radhakrishnan, N. C. Kelkar, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, Karmveer Bhaurao Patil and others. The visit of the above personalities made hands of Maloji stronger. They appreciated work done by him in different spheres of life in the state.

#### **CELEBRATION OF PROF. D.K. KARVE'S EIGHT SECOND BIRTHDAY: -(19<sup>th</sup> APRIL 1939A.D.)**

Shrimant Malojirao was a social worker. He gave financial help to other institutions and persons working for social welfare. He celebrated the eighty-second birthday of great social reformer. Prof. Karve on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1939A.D. The details of celebration are given in Annual Report of 1938-39A.D.

“An unique event during the year under Report was the celebration at Phaltan on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 1939A.D. of the eighty second birthday of Prof. D. K. Karve, founder of Poona S. N. D. T. Indian women’s university. S. N. D. T. Women’s College Poona and the Anath Balikashram( Widow’s Home) Poona. Shrimant Rajasaheb and Shrimant S. Rani Saheb, who have been taking a keen interest in female education and in the activities of Prof. Karve, naturally thought of inviting him and Mrs. Karve to Phaltan as it would give an opportunity to their subjects to know Prof. Karve’s activities at first hand. Dr. R. P. Paranjape the Veteran liberal leader and incidentally Prof. Karve’s near relative readily consented to preside over the celebration. Mr. N.C. Kelkar, the well-known patriot and long time editor of the Kesari, who was also invited to grace the occasion by his presence. The other guests numbering about fifty included many educationists and literary persons from Poona.

The Phaltan Municipality and the Phaltan state local board jointly presented addresses of welcome to Prof. Karve, Dr. Paranjape, and Mr. Kelkar on 19-4-1039 A.D. replying to the address given to him Prof. Karve said that he considered the honour done to him as an honour of the Institutions to which he had devoted his life. He paid a glowing tribute to Shrimant Raja Saheb and Shrimant S. Rani Saheb for their social service

and interest in the uplift of women in the Phaltan state. He even likened S. Rani Saheb to the recovered historic personality of Rani Sagunabai alias Aaisaheb of Phaltan.

The main function in honour of Prof. Karve was held in the evening before a large and representative gathering. At the beginning Mrs. Godbole vice- president of the Phaltan state Mahila Mandal offered the Mandal's greetings and felicitations to Maharshi Karve. On his eighty-second birthday, and presented him with a sandal wood walking stick and a purse of Rs.125-6-0 collected from its members Prof. Karve thanked the Mandal for the very apt gift of the stick and declared his intention to utilize the interest of the amount of the purse in giving Annually a prize to a girl student, preferably to one from Phaltan, in the institutions affiliated to the Indian Women's University. Shrimant Raja Saheb and Shrimant S. Rani Saheb desired the presents of silver tumblers should be given at the hands of Prof. Karve to all octogenarians in the state on this occasion. Prof. Karve after giving the prizes said that it was indeed a unique occasion in his life that a ruler should remember the old amongst his subjects and cause prizes to be distributed to them in appreciation of their advanced age.

Shrimant Raja Saheb then announced in his speech a grant of an Annually of Rs. 600 to Prof. Karve in recognition of his great social and

national service to Maharashtra and the country as a whole. He said that Prof. Karve was the greatest social reformer of his age; who had steadily followed his own convictions and that his achievements be spoke of his undaunted courage and energy. He never knew rest. In fact "As I rest, I rust" was his motto. Shrimant S. Rani Saheb in congratulating Prof. Karve said that she remembered the story in the Ramayan in which Ahilya who was transformed into a stone was restored to life by Rama. She said Prof. Karve had similarity restored consciousness in Indian women of the great role which they were capable of playing in social and national spheres. Shrimant S Rani Saheb then made a personal present of a set of Parker fountain pen and pencil to Prof. Karve and a set of gold bangles to Mrs. Karve as mementos.

A number of speeches were then made by the citizens who expressed their gratefulness to Shrimant Raja Saheb and Shrimant Rani Saheb for the opportunity given to them of knowing Prof. Karve and his lifework. Then amid loud applause, Prof. Karve rose to reply. He seemed to be very much overwhelmed by feelings of gratitude. He said he had witnessed many functions done in his honour during the last few years. But none of them had left so indelible a mark upon his mind as the present one, and thanked

Shrimant Raja Saheb and Shrimant S.Rani Saheb for the honour done to him.

The function concluded with Dr. Paranjape's presidential speech. He thanked Shrimant Raja Saheb for the honour done to him in requesting him to preside over the function and said that Prof. Karve's life-work might be summed up in his four principal activities viz. widow remarriage, Widow's home, female education and rural uplift. He said that Prof. Karve had to face innumerable difficulties, which he did with courage and perseverance like all true great men, and unlike many of them had the good fortune to see his efforts crowned with success during his lifetime. Dr. Paranjape paid a tribute to Shrimant Raja Saheb and Shrimant S. Rani Saheb for their social work saying that they had no doubt rendered a signal service to the country by bestowing an annuity of Rs. 600 on a social worker like Prof. Karve.<sup>32</sup>

#### **DR. S. RADHAKRISHNAN'S VISIT TO PHALTAN STATE:-**

(1941A.D.) India's Great son, international educationalist, great philosopher, India's future vice-President and President Dr. S. Radhakrishnan paid visit to Phaltan state on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1941A.D.<sup>33</sup> At that time Dr. S. Radhakrishnan M. A. D. Lit L. L. B. was Vice Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University. Malojiraje had a great regard for S. Radhakrishnan who was honoured by Phaltan state. He was presented with



an amount of Rs.11602-4-0. This news was published in the Phaltan state. Gazette, on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1941A.D. This indicates that great man of international repute visited Phaltan state due to the contact of Malojirao.<sup>34</sup>

#### **KARMVEER BHAURAO PATIL AND MALOJIRAJE: -**

Karmveer Bhaurao Patil had dedicated himself to the cause of spreading education to the rural masses of western Maharashtra. The Rayat Shikshan Sanstha was founded by Karmveer Bhaurao Patil and the head office of the Institutions is in Satara. Malojiraje was great patron of art and literature. He himself advocated the spread of education among his subjects. Right from the beginning Malojiraje had an intimate and close contact with Karmveer Bhaurao Patil. Karmveer Bhaurao on the other hand also admired the social policy and work of Malojiraje. Karmveer Bhaurao patil wrote an article on Malojiraje entitled. "Rayat Sevak Malojirao in which he gave brief account of the work of Maloji and furnished the following information.

Karmveer writes " Phaltan was an old state in Maharashtra and Shrimant Malojirao was an active social reformer. He did not observe in inequality of the people. He was against caste system. In his state people from all caste like Brahmins, Gujarati and others lived in peace and harmony. He gave special concessions and privileges lower and poor classes of people. Therefore lower classes made good progress in his state."

Further Bhaurao states important thing that, “ For the Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, Shrimant Malojirao had handed over his own Bungalow at Satara and 10.5 acres of land to Sanstha. In addition to this land he also gave the donation of Rs. 5000/- to Karmveer Bhaurao Patil. Moreover when in 1940 the construction of Sayajirao High school was going on, Malojirao had donated Rs. 5000/-. About this help Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil remarked “ I will not forget this help in my life”.

This information states that Malojiraje had a love for education of common man and he was a great admirer of Bhauro Patil as well as this Rayat Shikshan Sanstha.

[Even Dr. S.A. Kakrambe in his Ph.D. thesis on Karmveer Bhaurao Patil write in the following words: “The foundation stone of the MahaRaja Sayajirao Vidyalyaya building was laid on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1939A.D. by his Highness Pratapsinh Gaikwad when Maharshi Vithal Ramji Shinde presided. Till the building was ready on the Sanstha’s premises the school assembled in “Phaltan Niwas which was offered by the Rajasaheb of Phaltan on a nominal rent.”<sup>35</sup>

Karmveer Bhaurao Patil admitted that there were some political differences between himself and Malojiraje. Many times Bhaurao Patil

criticized Malojiraje but he accepted that Malojiraje was great patron of Rayat Sikshan Sanstha, Malojiraje loved Bhaurao Patil very much.<sup>36</sup>

There is another article written by Appasaheb Patil son of Karmveer Bhaurao Patil, Shagatak (organizer of Rayat Education Sansthan) in which he shed light on the intimate and close relations between Karmveer Bhaurao Patil and Malojiraje. He writes, "Karmveer Anna's work was in villages and Karmveer had to wander every villages for his mission. He was fat, therefore Shrimant Malojiraje had giving his own car along with his driver for the use of Karmveer Bhaurao Patil. He always insisted Anna to use his car. We have to look after your health. Your presence is necessary for Maharashtra, therefore you use my car. This is the request of Brother said Malojiraje to Anna. Some days Anna used the car of Malojiraje for visiting various villages and when he covered his health he returned the car to Malojiraje.

"In future Malojiraje after independences joined the congress party and became minister for Public Works Department of Bombay Presidency. At this time Anna demanded from Government 123 acres land of village Devapur, Taluka Man Dist. Satara. At this time Malojiraje was a minister and he used his influence and took the lead and got sanctioned this land to Anna's Rayat Society for earn and learn scheme. This land is cultivated by the students till now. From this onward Bhaurao had a family relation with

Malojiraje. *Rayat* Education Society opened one High School at Lonand near Phaltan and Karmveer Anna gave name of Malojiraje to this High School for recognizing Malojiraje's support to the Institution.<sup>37</sup>

The ultimately sad demise of Karmveer Bhaurao Patil shocked Malojiraje who attended the funeral ceremony of Bhaurao at Satara and advised his followers to continue the great educational work of Bhaurao Patil in future which will be the great memorial of Bhaurao Patil."

This information was written by Appasaheb Patil by which one can understand there was close and intimacy of both the personalities.

#### **SHRIMANT MALOJIRAO AND SATARA MARATHA VIDYA-PRASARAK SAMAJ: -**

Like Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, Malojiraje had given land to another educational Institution in Satara. In year 1939A.D. Shrimant Raja Saheb gave his land at Satara known as Satara Parada measuring about 2 acres 25 gunthas(R.S. No.10/1) on 99 years lease(free of rent) to the Satara Maratha Vidya-Prasark Samaj on condition that Shrimant Raja Saheb should have a right of resuming the land with the buildings etc. on the payment of reasonable cost in case the educational activities of the Samaj come to a stand still or at the expiration of the stipulated period.<sup>38</sup>

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1939A.D. Shrimant Raja Saheb attended the tenth Annual session at Satara of the “Akhil Maharashtra Shareerik Shikskhana Parishad” presided over by H.H. the Maharaja of Baroda. Shrimant Raja Saheb also attended on the same day the ceremony of laying the corner stone of the building of Shri. Maharaja Sayajirao high school and silver jubilee ruler training college of the Rayat Shikshan Sanstha Satara at the hands of H.H. the Maharaja of Baroda. Shrimant Raja Saheb was also present at the Satara Municipal address given to H.H. the Maharaja of Baroda on the same evening.

On December 4, 1939A.D. Shrimant Raja Saheb attended the ceremony of laying the corner stone of Shri. Mahararaj Jomunabai Maratha boarding of the Satara Maratha Vidya- Prasarak Samaj at the hands of H.H. the Maharaja of Baroda. Shrimant Rajasaheb in his brief speech requested His Highness to lay the corner stone. His Highness laid the corner stone and expressed his thanks for giving him the opportunity.<sup>39</sup>

#### **OBITUARY TO MYSORE AND KOLHAPUR MAHARAJAS: -**

Malojiraje belonged to historical family and he had good contacts with other historical houses like Kolhapur and Mysore, unfortunately the two Maharajas of Kolhapur and Mysore breathed their last in the year 1940A.D.

The condolence meeting was held at Phaltan and the following resolution was passes by the Phaltan Durbar.

“The Government feels grieved to record the sad demise of his Highness Sir Shri Krishnaraja Wadiyar Bahadur Maharaj of Mysore on Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> August 1940A.D. at P.M. His Highness was the most enlightened ruler endowed with broad outlook. During the regime of His Highness, Mysore become a model state in many ways. As a mark of respect to his memory offices and schools were closed on Wednesday August 5<sup>th</sup> , 1940A.D. <sup>40</sup>In another condolence message to Kolhapur it was Reported that “ The Government feel grieved to record the sad demise of His highness Sir Shri Rajaram Chattarpati, Maharaja of Kolhapur G.C.S.I.G.C.I. E. On Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup> , 1940A.D. in Bombay, owing to heart failure following a minor operation. By the death of His Highness, Kolhapur has lost a ruler who worthily maintained the High traditions of historic house. In the eighteen years of His Highness rule Kolhapur made great progress. A condolence meeting under the Presidentship of Shrimant Raja Saheb was held on Wednseday 27, 1940A.D. and a resolution was passed all standing reverently in silence. As a mark of respect to his memory offices and schools were closed on November 27 and 28, 1940A.D.

The Legislative Council of the state passed resolutions recording the grief felt by the Council and the people of Phaltan by the demise of these two great Ruler's and appreciating their greatness.<sup>41</sup>

**BHARAT ITIHAS SANSHODHAK MANDAL POONA AND MALOJIRAO: -**

Bharat Itihas Sanshodhan Mandal Poona was established by Itihasa charya V.K. Rajwade in 1910A.D. in Poona. This is one of the leading research institutes in Maratha history throughout India. Not only Indian research workers from all over the world who are interested in Maratha History used to visit this institution and utilized the rich library and historical source material of this Mandal.

Malojiraje was interested in past and the glorious history of Marathas. He had very close contact with this Mandal. Some years he was the President of Bharat Itihas Sanshodhak Mandal. He also handed over some original documents to B.H.I Mandal. He also donated some money to B.H.I. Mandal and he was a patron of this institution.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1945A.D. he delivered Lecture in B.H.I. Mandal to commemorate the second death anniversary of late. Apte, Previously on 13<sup>th</sup>

May 1941A.D. he was got elected as the President of B.H.I. Mandal Poona.<sup>42</sup>

### **RIGHT FOR ENTERING IN TEMPLE TO HARIJANS (UNTOUCHABLES): -**

Malojirao was great social reformer. Like educational reforms he also introduced some social reforms in his state. He passed the order and opened the temples of Shriram, Datta, Nageshwar for untouchables in his state. This was the bold step on his part. In this connection on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1947A.D. he published orders in Phaltan state Gazette. The proclamation was as follows, “ It is informed to all people in the state that the temples of Shriram, Datta, and Nageshwar at Phaltan are private properties until now there was ban for untouchables entry in these temples. It is our desire that untouchable people should visit these temples. Since last 20 years I am trying for this. Now all these temples are open for the entry of Harijans. This is my order and kindly take note of these by all state officers.”<sup>43</sup>

### **PATRON OF ART AND LITERATURE: -**

Malojirao was great patron of art and literature. He donated number of gifts to various institutions and persons in his state and outside: The following list is useful in this connection.



The following donations were given by the Durbar during the Year  
1935-36A.D.

DONATIONS	AMOUNTS
1. The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona.	500/-
2.The Mudhoji Club, Phaltan	200/-
3. The Victoria Diamond Jubilee Library, Phaltan	410/-
4.The Shri. Sagunamata Maternity Home, Phaltan	200/-
5.The General Secretary All India Modern History Congress, Poona.	51/-
6. Dr. C.E.Vail, Presbyterian Mission Hospital, Miraj	300/-
7.The Hon. Secretary, Building Committee of the Poona, Seva Sadan Nursing and Medical Education Committee	1000/-
8.Mr. K.S.Pandit, Singer, Gwalior	75/-
9.H.E. The Viceroy,s Quetta Earthquake Relief fund	1000/-
10.The Secretary Vedic Sanshodhan Mandal, Poona.	250/-
11.Principal Govind Chimaji Bhate.	100/-
12.Mr.K.N.Patwardhan.	50/-
13.Principal Vishwanath Kashinath Rajwade.	50/-

14.Prof.N.K.Gharpure.	50/-
15.Mr.Laxman Dattatraya Joshi. for his book	25/-
16.Sadashiv Ramchandra Godbole, Poona (book)	50/-
17.Master Anant Keshav Kogje Singer,Jabalpur	20/-
18.Mr.S.Y.Joshi.,Engineer, Malvali for his book	25/-
19.Mr.Vasudev Krishna Bhawe. for his book	100/-
20.Mr.K.K.Iyengar, Editor United India and Indian states New Delhi	100/-
21.Mr.P.S.Aathwale ,Prasarak Pratapgad fund organized by Shrimant Tararaje Ranisaheb Satara.	501/-
22.The Editor in Chief The Indian states and Jamindars, Secunderabad	100/-
23.Miscellaneous	16/-
Total	5173 <sup>44</sup>

The following donations were given by the Durbar during the Year  
1937-38A.D.

Donation	AMOUNT
1.The Bhosale Military School, Nashik	1000/-
2.The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute ,Poona	500/-
3.Mudhoji Club, Phaltan.	200/-
4.The Victoria Diamond Jubilee Library, Phaltan.	200/-
5.Shri.Sagunamata Maternity Home, Phaltan	200/-
6. The Vyaum Dnyanakosh Karyalaya, Baroda.	60/-
7.The King Emperors Anti-tuberculosis Fund for India	5000/-
8.The Maharashtra Girls Education Society Poona.	1000/-
9.The Women's Fellowship of Service,Bombay.	500/-
10.Mr.R.K. Godekar , Teachers Girls School, Solapur.	500/-
11.Seva Sadan Society Poona	200/-
12.Prof.Mr.M.T.Patwardhan, Rajaram College Kolhapur.	200/-
13.The Harijan Uplift Society, Madras	100/-
14.Anna Babu Chormale, State Motor Driver Phaltan.	100/-
15.The Maharashtra Hindu Dharma Conference,	100/-

Kolhapur	
16.The Ex-Service Association Belgaum	25/-
17.The Bombay Presidency Geography teaching Conference Poona	25/-
18.Miscellaneous Grant	100/-
Total	10010/- <sup>45</sup>

The following donations were given by the Durbar during the Year  
1938-39A.D.

DONATION	AMOUNT
1.Mudhoji Club, Phaltan.	200/-
2.Victoria Diamond Jubilee, Phaltan.	200/-
3.Shri.Sagunamata Maternity Home, Phaltan.	200/-
4.Prof.Dhondo Keshav Karve.	600/-
5.The Bhosale Military School , Nashik.	1000/-
6.The All India Gliding Institute Allahabad for Patronage to the Institute.	500/-
7.Khemraj memorial Fund, Sawantwadi.	100/-
8.Mr.R.G.Kanade for His Marathi Book.	100/-

9.Miscellaneous Grants.	792/-
Total	3792/- <sup>46</sup>

The following donations were given by the Durbar during the Year  
1939-40A.D.

DONATION	AMOUNT
1.Mudhoji Club, Phaltan.	200/-
2.Victoria Diamond Jubilee Library, Phaltan.	200/-
3.Shri.Sagunamata Maternity Home, Phaltan.	200/-
4.H.A. The Viceroy War Purposes Fund.	6000/-
5.Dr.S.R.Machave Hon. Secretary The Poona School and Home for the Blind	500/-
6.Mr.S.R.Shendage, Sangli.	250/-
7.Akhil Maharashtra Physical Culture Conference Satara.	200/-
8.The Deccan Education Society's English School for Girls.	100/-
9.Victoria Diamond Jubilee Library (Special Grant).	101/-
10.Mr.M.N.Kulkarni Clerk of the Court, Phaltan.	450/-
11.The Vyayam Dnyankosha Karyalay, Baroda.	60/-

12.Mr.J.G.Joglekar	50/-
13.V.N.Gokhale,Chikodi (for His Book)	50/-
14.Mr.D.G.Kulkarni.	50/-
15.Miscellaneous	100/-
Total	8511/- <sup>47</sup>

The following are the Principal donations are given by the Durbar during year 1940-41A.D. The total donations amounted to Rs. 40,110.<sup>48</sup>

DONATION	AMOUNT
1.H.E.Viceroy War Purposes Fund	12000/-
2.Seva Sadan Society Fund Poona	10000/-
3.Maharaj Sayajirao Highschool and Silver Jubilee Ruler Training College Satara.	5000/-
4.Anant Balikshram Hingane,Poona.	5000/-
5.Nutan Marathi Vidyalaya	1000/-
6.Dr.M.T.Patwardhan Memorial Fund Poona.	700/-
7.All India Cattle Show Society,Delhi	500/-
8.Delhi Maharashtriya Samaj Trust.	500/-
9.Akhil Maharashtra Physical Culture Conference,	500/-

Miraj.	
10.The Times of India Strom Fund	250/-
11.Bhagani Samaj Dadar.	250/-
12.Maharashtriya Mandal Poona.	200/-
13.Red Cross Fair Fund, Kolhapur Camp Gymkhana.	100
Total	40110/-

The following are the Principal donations are given by the Durbar during year 1941-42A.D. The total donations amounted to Rs. 47,547.

DONATION	AMOUNT
A. War effort.	
1.H.E. the Viceroy war purposes Fund.	12000/-
2.The Phaltan Armored carrier.	11,000
3.H.E. The Viceroy's China Day Contribution	1000/-
4.The Rupee War Effort Prize Fund, Belgaum.	219/-
5.Local Red Cross Fund, Kolhapur.	200/-
6.Indian General Hospital Kirkee	200/-
7.Red Cross and War purposes Fund residency Club, Kolhapur.	150/-

8.Maternity Home and War Funds, Kolhapur.	50/-
ii.Educational and other Institutes	10,000/-
1.The Benares Hindu University.	5000/-
2.N.D.Thackersey Indian Women's University, Bombay.	1000/-
3.Progressive Education Society's Modern High School, Poona.	1000/-
4.Modern Education Society, Poona.	1000/-
5.Shri. Krishnanand Ram-Maruti Vidyashram Vithal Nagar, Poona.	600/-
6.Deccan Education Society's New English School for Girl's,Poona	500/-
7.Agarkar High School for girls, Poona	500/-
8.The Poona Seva Sadan Society	201/-
9.Anath Balikashram, Hingane, BK.,Poona.	101/-
10.M.G.Gokarnkar Shastri's Nutan Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Satara.	100/-
11.Bhandarkar research Institute, Poona	500/-
12.Phaltan State Harijan PRaja Mandal, Bombay.	500/-



13. Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India	200/-
14. The Reception Committee of Bombay Women's Association.	101/-
15. Dakshin Maharashtra Tiritiya Sahitya Sammelan, Karad.	51/-
16. Dvitiya Sanskrit Sahitya Sammelan, Poona	50/-
iii. Others Donations	2324
Total	47547

The following are the Principal donations are given by the Durbar during year 1942-43 A.D. The total donations amounted to Rs. 22,614.<sup>49</sup>

DONATION	AMOUNT
1. War Effort	12000
2. Reconstruction of Historical fund. For reconstructing the Samadhi of Shri. Jijabai, mother of Shivaji the Great at Pachad at the foot of Rayagad fort.	2675
3. For Educational and Cultural purposes	3045
4. Patronage to authors.	262

5. Patronage to Public Institutions.	3112
6. For Encouraging sport.	160
7. Miscellaneous.	725
8. other Donations.	42
Total	22614 <sup>50</sup>

The following are the Principal donations are given by the Durbar during year 1943-44A.D.

DONATION	AMOUNT
1. War Effort	12000
2. For Educational and Cultural purposes	4161
3. Patronage to authors.	724
4. Patronage to Public Institutions.	7807
5. Other Donations	2600
Total	27292 <sup>51</sup>

**PUBIC WORKS (1941 A.D.):-**

The public works department was under the control of Rao Bahadur ,K.V Godbole B.A.L.L.B. ,Diwan and Home member Messer R.S Bapat, L.C.E V.J Kunte B.E(civil) ,And Mr. K. B. Disle continued to be the P.W.D officers; the city buildings engineer and the chief oversers respectively during the year 1941-42 A.D. and details of the expenditure incurred on the public works including the expenditures from the local funds are given. The expenditure from the local funds incurred on P.W.D of the Phaltan state local board amounted to Rs: 13735,out of which Rs-5699 were spent on original works and remaining amount was spent on repairs.

During the year 1941-42A.D. current repairs were made by the state P.W.D to the Mudhoji Manmohan Palace and to almost all the Public offices and the government building in the town, and some stables (near the Laxmi Vilas Palace) etc. at the cost of Rs: 12144. Besides the establishment and the another charges the amount of expenditures incuses on the original works (regarding the government offices and buildings etc. was Rs: 31,464 during the year 1941-42 A.D. The construction work of the following new building and that of the special road repairs etc. deserve special mention.

### **THE NEW CENTRAL OFFICES BUILDINGS:-**

The work of the construction of two spacious Blocks of the buildings estimated at the cost of over Rs-2, 25,000 was commenced at the beginning of the year 1941-42A.D. and nearly 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the estimate work was finished by the end of the year. The expenditure on these two buildings comprising of the eastern and western blocks, however was not included in the years expenditures Figures as it was under security by the state public works –Accounts Department, The object of undertaking the construction of the building s was to house almost all the state government offices in one place. These two office buildings were situated to the south of Phaltan town on either side of Laxmidevi Road leading from the town to the Laxmi Vilas Palace .The beams and floorings of the buildings of the reinforced cement concrete and are expected to last for atleast 200 years if not more. The western Block had a rear extension consisting of a spacious two-stored council hall built and equipped in the most modern fashion. Under the dias of Hall there was a basement which was intended for the office of the Legislative Council .The eastern Block had a spacious basement which was coextensive with its ground –floor, the northern hall of the basement in this block is intended for the state Treasure .The remaining work was under construction

**THE NEW JAIL BUILDING: -**

Part of the old jail building had become too old to be of use any longer. Hence it was proposed to pull down the old jail building along with the adjoining old (Mamlatdar office building and replace it by a modern structure equipped with up to date conveniences required for a jail in these days. This work was undertaken in the year 1940-41 A.D. and one block of this estimated building was completed at cost of Rs:13,295. Another part consisting of four cell s and three rooms for store and kitchen etc, was undertaken and completed during the year 1941-42 and the expenditure incurred amounted to Rs: 3,828. The remaining work is in progress.

**THE KURAN BANGLOW :-**

The bungalow had decent accommodation and was situated to the south of Phaltan in Biroba Kuran at a distance of about one and half miles from the Laxmi Vilas Palace. The Work of these buildings was taken up for thorough remodeling during the year 1941-42A.D. .It was originally intended as a residence where the ruling family could shift during the outbreaks off epidemics like Plague etc. It was situated on a slight eminence and a dry healthy site along side of the water supply main from Nirgudi. This small bungalow consists of a small hall and bed-rooms and other rooms with Kitchen and out -houses .It was fitted with the modern sanitary

arrangements. The bungalow also served the purpose of a guest house for occasionally accommodating guest .The amount spent on the remodeling during the year under Report was Rs 4,474 and the works was in progress.

#### **THE NIRGUDI WATER WORKS: -**

The water supply in the underground trenches at Nirgudi was found to fall short of the requirements .Two new oil Engines and pumps were therefore setup in the old well constructed in 1921-22A.D. along the pipeline, the water from this well was pumped into the pipe line to make up the shortage. The new installation of the engines and the pumps was done in 1941-42 A.D. One new tunnel –trench was also constructed and others were repaired. The old stone channel from this well was replaced by cement concrete pipes for length of nearly 800 feet ,The expenditures incurred on this work is not included in the figures of this years expenditures as it is under scrutiny.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS, ROADS, LANDING GROUND, RAILWAYS: -**

I. The important roads in the state were : -

1. Mahad-Pandharpur Road, a distance of about 32 miles.
2. Old Poona-Satara Road a distance of about 7 miles.
3. The Phaltan-Adarki Road, a distance of about 11 miles.
4. Phaltan-Mograla Road, a distance of about 15 miles.

5. Phaltan-Singnapur Road, a distance of about 15 miles.
6. Phaltan-Sanghavi Road, a distance of about 31 miles.
7. The Sugar Factory Approach, a distance of about 31 miles and
8. The Sugar Factory Sastewadi Road, a distance of about 5 ½ miles.

**A. THE MAHAD-PANDHARPUR ROAD: -**

It pass through the state from west to east (from Lonand to Dharampuri) and was the main arterial road in the state. It was a provincial road and the Durbar pays an Annual contribution of Rs. 4607 plus half the toll proceeds to the Government of Bombay for its upkeep. During the Year under Report the state paid Rs.8, 625 as half-toll proceeds.

**B.THE PHALTAN-SANGHAVI ROAD: -**

This road was in charge of the Phaltan state local board since the year 1931A.D.. The Government of India had promised to allot some funds out of the grant from the reserve in the central road fund at their disposal but the proposal was withdrawn by them owing to the need to husband all available resources in the road fund reserve to finance urgent works in connection with the world war. But as this road was not in a satisfactory condition the Phaltan Durbar have taken up the work. The work was started in 1941A.D. and up to the end of the year under Report Rs.7, 659 were spent over the reconditioning of the road. The amount was mainly spent in collection of

material required straightening the line of the road and easing the gradients etc.

### **C. ROADS NEAR THE PHALTAN TOWN: -**

An amount of Rs. 2,482 was spent on the roads adjoining the landing ground at Phaltan. A large amount out of the above Sum during 1941-42A.D. year for improving the Laxmidevi road leading to the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

### **II. THE LANDING GROUND: -**

The landing ground at Phaltan had been constructed to be of use as an emergency landing place for aeroplanes. The site selected was very good and natural. All works had been done in the earlier stage under the advice and guidance of Captain A.T.E. Eadon, E.R.A.S.M.I.A.C.E. who was then the Governor of principal aeronautical training center, New Delhi and was subsequently appointed director of Civil Aviation, Burma and later on the advice of Mr. R.V. Fowler, consulting Civil Aviation Engineer, Bombay was secured. The landing ground was well protected by a barbed wire fencing and four small. Sheds were being provided for a *Choukidar* petrol store, Office and emergency Rest house for Aviators. The total expenditure incurred up to the end of the year under Report was Rs. 25,017. Out of this amount Rs. 8,540 were spent in the year 1939-40A.D. Rs.5014 during the



last year and Rs. 11,463 during the current year. After leveling this ground by filling up its hollow portions and rolling the surface the work of putting boundary marks and setting up air-indicators was done. During the year under Report wire fencing was nearing completion and the construction work of four sheds undertaken in the last year was also in progress.

### **III. THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MARATHA RAILWAY: -**

The Poona Bangalore section of this railway passed through the Phaltan state for about 12 miles. Adarki and Salpa were the railway stations within the state limits.

### **IV. THE PHALTAN SUGAR TROLLEY LINE: -**

A trolley line had been laid by the Phaltan Sugar Works Ltd. to carry sugar cane from the fields to the factory and the goods from Nira railway station of the Madras and southern Maratha railway to the factory and vice versa. The length from west to east i.e. from Nira station to Rajala cane estate was nearly 27 miles. There was another line running from the factory to *Hol* cane section, south to north, of the mile in length. The total length including the branches is 36 miles. There was also a feeder line about a mile in length near Rajala section.<sup>52</sup>

**SHRIMANT RAJASAHEB AND HIS FAMILY:-**

Malojiraje ruled Phaltan state for more then 31 years. He was the 25<sup>th</sup> ruler of the Phaltan state .The administrative Report of the Phaltan state for the year 1938-39A.D. furnishes the following family information. It runs as follows:

“Major Raja Shrimant Malojiraje alias Nanasaheb Naik Nimbalkar is the 25th ruler from the founder Nimbraji. He was born on the 11th September 1896A.D. at Nimbore, a village about 6 miles north-west Phaltan He was adopted by the late ruler Shrimant Malojirao Bapusaheb on 28th December 1849A.D..He obtain diploma from Rajkumar College Rajkot, in 1916A.D.,He was invested with the ruling powers on 15th November 1917A.D.The hereditary title of ‘Raja’ was confirmed on January 1,1936A.D.

Shrimant Laxmibai, Ranisaheb was born on the 17th November 1901A.D. at Malegan Bdk(Dist Poona),She was married to Shrimant Raja Saheb on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1913A.D. at Phaltan.

She is daughter of Shrimant Raja Shambhusinhrao Amarsinhrao Jadhavrao, first class Sardar and Saranjamdar of Malegaon Bdk. He is a descendent of Dhanoji Jadhav, The famous Maratha general in reign of Satara.

Shrimant Rajasaheb and Shrimant Rani Saheb have one daughter and four sons. Their names, birth dates and birth places are given below:

Name	Birthdate	Birth-Place
Shrimant Sarojinidevi alias Akkasaheb	02-6-1920 A.D	Phaltan
Shrimant Pratapsinha Bapusaheb Yuvraj (Heir Apparent)	13-7-1923 A.D	Poona
Shrimant Vijaysinha alias Shivajiraje	25-5-1925 A.D	Poona
Shrimant Udaysinharaje	7-12-1927 A.D	Poona
Shrimant Vikramsinhraje	13-12-1933 A.D	Poona <sup>53</sup>

#### **FREEDOM MOVEMENT IN PHALTAN STATE: - PROGRESS TOWARDS DEMOCRACY.**

Shrimant Malojiraje was a farsighted and progressive ruler. His nature was not of an absolute monarch. Democracy emerged and developed in Phaltan state during his regime. Though he was entitled to sovereign rights and to enjoy to absolute power as the chief of the state, from the beginning to end of his regime but he rule Phaltan as per the principles of democracy. He spontaneously and deliberately put his efforts to secure co-operation of the people's representatives in the state administration Rajasaheb on his own brought about progressive reforms in Phaltan state.<sup>54</sup>

Malojiraje appointed in April 1920A.D. a mixed advisor council of officers and leaders of the people to help him in the administration .And thus Rajasaheb himself restricted his absolute power with introducing responsible system of the government in the Phaltan state .Rajasaheb established Legislative Council on the 17th September,1929A.D. ,This Legislative Council consisted of 17 members of which 8 were elected by the people and 2 were nominees of government ,and remaining 5 were nominated as non-official members. Among these five non-official members of the Legislative Council were the person of independent thought like Vamanrao Patvardhan ,Late Dr. Bhandarkar and late S.B.Bapat .In addition to it one member belonging to backward community was appointed in the Legislative Council .According to this act a well known leader of the Phaltan Late Shri. Shripad Madhav Dani was appointed as minister for judiciary in the executive council.<sup>55</sup>

According to the Phaltan state Act No: 5 of 1931A.D. Rajasaheb appointed Divan as the president of the executive council and freed himself from the responsibility of the president ship. According to this act the total number of the members of the Legislative Council increased from 17 to 19.Out of those 19 members 9 were elected by the people and 10 were nominated by the Government.

In order to introduce the system of diarchy in the Phaltan state Rajasaheb passed the Act of 1942 and granted another installment of constitutional reforms to his people. According to this Act out of 18 members of the Phaltan state Legislative Council 12 were elected by the people (out of which 2 seats were reserved for the backward community) and 6 were nominated non-officials (out of which 1 seat was from representative for women). Thus division of the Legislative Council members was made by this act. Respected person such as eminent economist Prof.D.R.Gadgil, Educationalist J.P.Naik, writer Smt Anandibai Shirke, agriculturist K.S.Joshi and Shridhar Ganesh Vaze of the servants of Indian society who did not belong to the State were nominated as the non-official members to the Legislative Council of the Phaltan state .A major portion of the Phaltan state was handed over to the two members from May 1944A.D.

#### **DECENTRALIZATION OF THE POWER: -**

Shrimant Malojiraje adopted the policy of decentralization of the power in his state .He implemented village *Panchayat* Act of Bombay 1931.Provincial government in his state and established the first village *Panchayat* at Taradgaon on 15th September 1931A.D.Subsequently more village *Panchayat* were established in other big villages Phaltan municipal Council was established in 1868A.D. to carry on local administration of the

Phaltan city .In the beginning the right of electing 8 out of 16 members of the municipal council was given to the people. From 1939 the right of electing 12 out of 16 member of the council was given to the people, Nagesh Vishwanath Bavadekar became the first elected president of the Phaltan municipal council in 1939A.D.<sup>56</sup>On the eve of the merger of the Phaltan state the number of the members of Phaltan municipal council was 20,out of which 13 were elected by the people and 7 were nominated by the Durbar .

According to the Phaltan state local board Act., Phaltan Local Board was established in 1931 A.D.<sup>57</sup> As per the local board Act .a certain share of revenue was given to the local board. Out of the 20 members of the local Board 15 were elected by the people. Responsibility of Education, Health Relief, Sanitation, Vaccination and other Department was entrusted to the local Board.

#### **POLITICAL ORGANISATION: -**

Initially the people of the Phaltan state did not feel it necessary to have political party organisation and Praja Parishad Movment .The reason for it was that 1917 Malojiraje gave good administration to his subjects. Though there was no demand from the people he gave them rights of democracy .It was his practice brought about political and constitutional reforms in the state with the help and consent of the people representative

.Besides there was lack of awareness and desire among the people and there was no reason to feel discontinued. In this situation the late Vamanrao Patwardhan ,a leader of the Deccan State Parishad Movement brought about the political consciousness among the people .As result of his endeavors to form the organization ,political party organization emerged in Phaltan state .They together launched the Praja parishad Movement in the Phaltan state.

#### **A) PHALTAN SANSTHAN LOKSABHA :-**

Due to efforts of the Vamanrao Patwardhan Political in difference on the part of the people of the Phaltan state was removed and they became politically conscious. "Dakshin Sansthan Loksabha Kaendra ,Phaltan ",was esalblished on 24th April ,1938 A.D. and this institution was affiliated to Dakasinee Sansthan Loksabha .It was decided in meeting of the general body held on 11th December ,1934A.D. to cut off the relations of this institution with the Dakshinee Sansthan Loksabha .The aims and objectives of this institution were as follows: To obtain complete responsible system of the government under the auspicious of the chief of the state by just and peaceful means and make efforts for all round progress of the subjects of the Phaltan state .Such as economic ,political and social .Nagesh Viswanath

Bavedekar (Pleader), Viswanath Narayan Agashe (Pleader), and Dr. Ramchandra Hari Bhadkamakar were the main leaders of this party.

**b) REFORMIST INDEPENDENT PARTY:-**

This was another important political party in the Phaltan state and Mr. Teli a local pleader was its leader. Members of this party had done some useful work in the Legislative Council, Municipality, Local Board, Shri Laxmi central Co-operative bank Ltd etc. Before 1940 A.D. this party had won 3 seats in the Legislative Council each as a result of its defeat in the election of the 1944 A.D., this party came to an end.<sup>58</sup>

**c) Shetkari Party: -**

This party was founded on the 25th February 1940 A.D. under the leadership of the Shri S. R. Bhosale, for the purpose of redressing grievances that farmers of the state for their by bringing about the social, economic and educational progress. The leader of the party S.R. Bhosale was a minister in the state executive from 1940 A.D. to 1944 A.D.

**d) PRAJA PARISHAD :-**

This party was founded rather late in the Phaltan state in comparison with other princely states. According to the information furnished by the first secretary of this organization Late Shri. R.B. Bhagat, "Phaltan Sansthan *PRaja Prishad*" was founded on the Late Shri Govindrao



Kanbur's advice in the latter half of the 1944 A.D. Shankarrao Dev its president, Dr. Dattaray Manahoar Barve was the executive President and R.B. Bhagat was the Chief secretary of the Praja Parishad.<sup>59</sup> The Loksabha Party and the Shetkari party, the political parties of the Phaltan state, worked together under the banner of the Praja Parishad. So far some time good impression of the Praja Parishad was created in the politics. There was great encouragement, guidance and initiative on the part of the political leaders from the outside the state in the establishment of the Praja Parishad. Praja Parishad advocated the people's side force fully on the issues like dismissal of the ministers, war period rationing distribution, management problems of the owners of the land given on rent etc. and succeeded in redressing grievances of the people.

#### **THE DISMISSAL OF THE ELECTED MINISTERS:-**

In the election of the 1944 *Shetkari* won 10 out of the 12 elected seats of the Legislative Council of the Phaltan state. Shri Shakaram Rajaram Bhosale and Ramchandram Hirachand Shah of this party were appointed as finance minister and Education Minister respectively. Madhavrao Bhagal opined "The Akhand Bharat finance minister of the state Shri. S. R. Bhosale was popular among the lower

classes and people were speaking about his achievements.<sup>60</sup> But it was alleged that finance minister Shri S. R. Bhosale, and his brother Shri. Abbasaheb Bhosale then Patil of Phaltan misused their power positions and forcibly took timber wood from the farmers for the house construction. On this charge Shri. S. R. Bhosale was sacked on 24th November 1944 A.D. But before the dismissal Shri. S.R. Bhosale was not given opportunity to defend or to resign. Similarly an impartial inquiry of charges made against him was not conducted. It was a severe blow to democracy in Phaltan State. Soon after this event the Education minister, Shri. R. H. Shah resigned. As a result, the decline of the Praja Parishad politics began and in March 1945 A.D. constitution was completely suspended.<sup>61</sup> The chain of events created discontent among the people of the Phaltan state. Praja Parishad started the agitation by constitutional means against unjust dismissal of Shri. S. R. Bhosale by the Durbar. The first and the last session of the Phaltan Sansthan Praja Parishad was held on 17th and 18th November 1945 A.D. at Phaltan. It was presided over by Deshbhakt Shakarrao Dev. The leader of the local political parties and the people attended this session. The reception committee President of this session Shri Ramchandra Yashwant Bhiote in his welcome speech presented a brief account of the political conditions in the state and appeal to all political parties to merge in the Praja Parishad.<sup>62</sup>

Shankarrao Dev in his Presidential address explained the duties and the responsibilities of the chief of the state. Seven resolutions were passed in this session.

Due to the Praja Parishad movement, Rajasaheb revived the old constitution. Shri. Nagesh Viswanath Bavedekar and Shri. Ramchandra Hirachand Shah were appointed as ministers.<sup>63</sup> It was great victory for the Praja Parishad but this pair of the ministers remained in power for very short period of time.

#### **UNION OF THE STATE OR MERGER:-**

After the end of the Second World War, an idea of the union of the states emerged in the Maharashtra to overcome probable difficulties in running administration of the states along democratic lines. This idea gathered momentum during the second world war period. The chiefs of the Deccan states felt it essential to form the Union of the states to maintain their existence. They tried to get support of the National leaders like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shri Vallabhbhai Patel and Mahatama Gandhi for their scheme of the union.<sup>64</sup> The chief of the Phaltan state actively participated in it. Malojiraje Naik Nimbalkar and his Divan Shri. K.V. Godbole called on Pandi Nehru and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and discussed about the union of the Deccan States. Once again the Malojiraje consulted

Nehru and Patel about the formation of the union. This time Nehru though did not oppose the scheme of Union, suggested that chiefs of the states should not form the union without the people consent and against their wishes.<sup>65</sup>

After India became independent on 15th August 1947A.D., the process of forming the union gathered speed. Among the Deccan States ,chiefs of the Aundh ,Bhor ,Phaltan ,Miraj, Mirajmala, Sangli, Kurundwad and Randurg signed an agreement of the union of the 17th October 1947 at Bhor. Thus the union of eight princely states came into existence .This scheme of union was hollow ,fruitless and impracticable.

Malojiraje had taken the lead in the formation of the union from the very beginning but the people of the Phaltan state opposed to the union .The people wanted the merger of the Phaltan. Union or merger ? On this important question Phaltan Sansthan Praja Parishad could not express peoples reaction effectively. It seems that there were differences among the leaders of the Praja Parishad on this question. Shri.S. R. Bhosale was in favor of union. He did not refuse to work as Home minister in the Cabinet of the union, against it Shri.R. B. Bhagat was in favor of merger. He was an elected member of Phaltan sansthan Praja parishad in the regional

council of the Deccan states 'Prajā Parishad'. He had participated in the demonstration arranged at Miraj against the union.<sup>66</sup>

#### **MERGER OF PHALTAN STATE: -**

Finally Phaltan state was merged into Indian Union on 8th March 1948 A.D. along with other S.M.C states, after that Phaltan state become one of the Taluka of Satara District of the Bombay Presidency, Malojiraje after joined congress party and became minister from some time. Lastly he died on 14th May 1978A.D. This was the brief survey of Malojirao's work from 1935A.D. to 1948A.D.

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**CHAPTER – VII**

**THE SURVEY OF  
ADMINISTRATION**

## CHAPTER VII

### THE SURVEY OF ADMINISTRATION

In this chapter a general survey of the Phaltan states administration is undertaken. The Naik Nimbalkar had received *Deshmukhi Watan*. After 1818 A.D. with the confirmation of the British rule the erstwhile *Jagir* turned into a native state under the British. The main stay (support) of the administration was the Ruler. After the Ruler in the Administrative setup came the *Karbhari* or the *Diwan*. As it was a state solely depending upon agriculture, the land system with its vicissitudes is studied. Then various heads of income, and aspect of trade and commerce have been examined. The importance of any state machinery depends upon judiciary. Therefore judiciary has also been discussed. In the later part of the chapter some of the aspects like Prison administration, municipality, medical department, public instructions departments and at the end the changes in the religious policy have been touched upon.

Administration is the backbone of any government machinery. The stability of the state depends upon the iron setup, which survives the Rulers. If the administration is founded on brittle foundation it is difficult to survive. The Phaltan state administration was strong enough to withstand various ups and downs in its history. The administration of the Phaltan state cannot be

studied in isolation. It was the product of earlier rules going back up to Muhammad bin Tughlak, the Emperor of Delhi (1325A.D.-1351A.D.), who has then warring in the Deccan.

The Phaltan state had eighty (80) villages under the command. These villages were spread over in the district of the Satara.<sup>1</sup> This area witnessed the change in the Rulers and dynasties. The frequent changes in the Rulers affected the spirit of innovation.

Up to 1818A.D. the Administrative setup was on the Maratha pattern of administration. In 1818 A.D. the British conquered the Maratha country and imposed their rule. From 1818 A.D. to 1948 A.D. the administration was influenced by the British.

The prop of administration in medieval India was the Ruler. During this period the Indian states were autocratic by nature. The Phaltan state was founded by Nimbaraj I in 13<sup>th</sup> century. Hence the nature of the state was not only autocratic but solely depending upon the whims and caprices of the Ruler. In other words the state administration was one-man oriented. The Ruler was the pivot of administration around which the state machinery revolved.

**DESHMUKHI WATAN DEFINED: -**

The Naik Nimbalkars were basically the Deshmukhs of Phaltan. It means all the characteristics of a Deshmukh were associated with them. Deshmukh has been defined by Shankar Rao Joshi as Desh: country, Mukh: mouth or Mukh in Marathi. It means the person holding the charge of such a position must have been of great importance. In Karnataka the person holding a similar charge was termed as Nadgouda. In other places similar officers were known as Desai, Desgat and Jamadar. Dr. Fukazawa while describing the local administration under the Adilshahi has defined the duties of the Deshmukh. His main duty was to “cause the soil to be cultivated and the region to prosper.”<sup>2</sup> He was also responsible for maintaining security in his region. For the maintenance he kept his own troops (Jamiat-I-Khud) at his own expense. He was also responsible for judicial functions in his territory. The Deshmukh had to collect revenue from his territory. In short he was responsible for the security, military affairs and judicial administration of his paragona.<sup>3</sup> The Deshmukh was empowered to levy his own discretion dues and taxes on the items authorized by the government, even though his discretion must have been tampered by their traditional customs and usages of the region, the violation of which would cause discontent and even drive people to flee from their villages. However

the government could censure him for the oppression and then he had to issue the assurance (qual) and consolation (dildari) to the people.<sup>4</sup>

The Deshmukh was the authority in the Paragana because in any meeting of consequence (Niranya sabha) his presence was vital. In Marathi documents Deshmukh has been described as a perpetual officer. The same position of the Deshmukh continued, therefore S.N. Joshi calls him a feudatory Raja or Deshnaik. He was authorized to appoint a Peshwa as his own officer. He had his own separate and distinct seat. He had the right to judicate the quarrels, to measure the boundaries of a village, to protect the harvest even the right to issue *Inams* and Mirashi Haques (Hereditary rights) was his authority.<sup>5</sup>

With this status in mind we find that Nimbaraj II was granted the Deshmukhi *Watan* by Muhammad Bin Tughlak. The earlier *Watan* consisted of certain villages in one Mahal. The same Deshmukhi *Watan* was continued by the Adilshah of Bijapur. The Deshmukhi *Watan* was governed by the principle of primogeniture. The Deshmukhi *Watan* was regarded as personal and private property. The governing law of the *Watan* was the law of the Ruler. In this case the governing law was the Hindu law. When Muhammad Bin Tughlak was in the Deccan for its conquest, in 1327 A.D. Padakhala joined the imperial forces and sacrificed his life. The emperor as a mark of

appreciation of the services of Podakhala Jagdevrao conferred on his son Nimbraj II (1327A.D.-1349A.D.) the hereditary title of 'Naik' with the rights of using Morchels and Gold Todas as insignia of royalty of a very high order, and also ratified the retention of the Phaltan *Jagir* by granting *Sanad* to him.<sup>6</sup> As the Deshmukhi *Watans* were the Private property, it was administered by the Ruler through his own men. The same situation continued up to the fall of the Marathas in 1818A.D. then the entire management came under the British. The Phaltan *Jagir* was included in the Satara raj. In 1820 A.D. the British entered into a treaty relation with the Nimbalkars. By this treaty the Nimbalkars accepted the British suzerainty. They also accepted to pay annually Rs.9600 to the British Government as a contribution for cavalry contingent.

#### **THE NATURE OF PHALTAN STATE: -**

As it has been pointed out earlier that the Phaltan state was a Jagir under the Marathas. After the dismemberment of Maratha Raj, Mr. M. Elphinstone installed Raja Pratapsinh as a head of Satara principality in 1819 A.D. he was endowed with Suzerain jurisdiction over six *Jagirs*, mainly Akkalkot, Bhore, Phaltan, Aundh, Wai, and Jath for the purpose of maintaining his dignity as an independent Sovereign.<sup>7</sup> In 1839 A.D. in consequence of the differences arising between the Raja of Satara and the



*Jagirdars* as to the exercise of jurisdiction, the contingent and the tributes payable by the *Jagirdars* were reserved to the Raja. The direct management and control over the *Jagirdars* was assumed by the British. In 1849 A.D. the Satara state was annexed by the Satara Raj went to the British Suzerainty. In that event the territory under the ex-Satara Ruler was placed under the supervision of the collector of Satara. When the exigencies demanded, the collector of Satara worked as a political agent for the above-mentioned six *Jagirdars*. The position also did not remain static.

The Phaltan state was not permanently put under the Satara agency. It changed its immediate superior from time to time. After the annexation of the Satara Kingdom was the state included in the Bombay Presidency, the collector of Satara acting as its political agent. On April 1, 1933 A.D. Phaltan along with the other Deccan states was transferred to the Government of India and was included in the Deccan state agency in the charge of the Resident for Kolhapur and the Deccan states.<sup>8</sup> The frequent changes in the allegiance has affected both the working of the Agency and the exact position of the state.

Since the time of the Peshwas the Nimbalkar were paying tributes to and providing military aid. The Military aid was in terms of horses and for that matter certain numbers of horses were assigned to the Naik Nimbalkars.

The Naik Nimbalkars administered their state in a semi-independent manner. They were the *Jagirdars* of Marathas. Later on the same status was confirmed by the British. They conferred the title of Raja on the last Ruler of Phaltan state in 1936 A.D.<sup>9</sup> Though it was a *Jagir* in proper terms, in practice it was a native state.

#### **DEFINITION OF A NATIVE STATE: -**

Sir Lee Warner has been defined the native state in these words “ The native state was political community occupying a territory in India of defined boundaries and subject to a common and responsible Ruler, who had actually enjoyed and exercised as belonging to him in his own right duly recognized by the Supreme authority of the British Govt.”<sup>10</sup> The Phaltan state took its official status in 1820 A.D.<sup>11</sup> Since then till its merger it was a native Princely state.

#### **FLUCTUATING FORTUNES OF THE STATE: -**

There were many occasions when the Phaltan state was attached by either Peshwa Madhavrao or the Maharaja of Satara or the British government.

Janoji was son of Vangoji. He was deposed by his step-brother Bajaji, but was afterwards restored to the Gadi by Shri Shahu Chattarpati of

Satara(1708A.D.-1749A.D.)With the growth of the Maratha power the *Jagir* passed under the domination of the Chattarpatis of Satara.

Janoji died in 1748 A.D. and was succeeded by his son Mudhoji III (1748 A.D.-1765A.D.).On his death in 1765 A.D. his wife Sagunabai alias Aaisaheb well known for her piety and benign rule, administered the state for a short time, but was deposed by the Peshwa, Madhavrao Ballal and one Soyaraji was placed on the Gadi. In 1774 A.D. Sagunabai adopted a son, Maloji III and a son Maloji III and with the aid of Peshwa Madhavrao Narayan alias Sawai Madhavrao regained control of the state. Maloji III died in 1777A.D. He was succeeded by his adopted son Janrao( 1791A.D.-1825A.D.) and Sagunabai once more administered the state till her death in 1791 A.D.Janrao continued in the service of the Peshwas till their fall in 1818 A.D. after which the state continued under the subordination of the Rajas of Satara, but under the guarantee of British Govt. conferred by a treaty dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1820A.D. The treaty continues to be in force though the Satara Rajas have ceased to exist since 1849A.D.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1825A.D., on Janrao's death without an heir, the state was attached by the Raja of Satara; but on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1827A.D., one by name Bajaji was allowed to succeed on payment of *Nazarana* or succession fee of Rs.30,000. On the 17<sup>th</sup> May 1828A.D.; on Bajaji's death

the state was again attached by the Raja of Satara. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1841 A.D. on payment of *Nazarana* of Rs.30,000 Janrao's widow Rani Sahebji Bai alias Bayasaheb was allowed to adopt Mahadaji, the grandson of Janrao's brother. After adoption Mahadaji was named Mudhoji. During his minority, Sahebji bai acted as regent and ably administered the state till her death in 1853 A.D. After her death the British Government administered the state till the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1860 A.D. when Mudhoji IV alias Bapusaheb was invested with ruling Powers.<sup>12</sup>

#### **THE RULER: -**

The Phaltan state as other states of India was a Military state. Nimbaraj I was the founder of Phaltan state. This state was one of the oldest in the Deccan dating its origin as far back as the middle of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Nimbaraj I a descendent of reputed Rajput Parmar family came down to the Deccan from the north in the year 1270 A.D. and settled at the foot of the Shambhu Mahadev hills. After a time he settled at Nimbalkar from which the surname of Nimbalkar is believed to be taken. Then came his brave son Podakhala Jagdevrao alias Dharupatrao (1291 A.D.-1327 A.D.). In 1327 A.D. Podakhala entered the service of Muhammad Bin Tughlak the emperor of Delhi (1325 A.D.-1351 A.D.) who was then warring in the Deccan, Podakhala was killed in Battle and the emperor as a mark of appreciation of his service,

granted his son Nimbaraj II a *Jagir* and conferred on him the hereditary title of Naik. Then Naik Nimbalkar became the *jagirdar* of Phaltan.<sup>13</sup>

The provincial governors and Jagirdars were required to maintain a fixed number of troops for the royal service. The King could utilize these troops at his will. These officials were known as Mansabdars, the assignment of *Jagir* was made for the maintenance of the Contingent. Thus a Mansabdar automatically became a *Jagirdar*. The organization discipline and payment of these contingents was left to individual *Jagirdars*.<sup>14</sup> After the end of Muhammad Tughlak (1351A.D.) the Ruler of Phaltan state served the Bahamanis and Adilshahi dynasty of Bijapur. After the end of Adilshahis in 1686A.D. the Rulers of Phaltan state served the Maratha power. They either had allegiance to Chhattarpati Shahu or the Peshwas with fluctuating loyalty. The erstwhile capital of the state is presenting Tahashil or Taluka in the Satara district.

#### **EXTENT OF PHALTAN STATE: -**

The Phaltan state consisted of 80 villages they were as follows.<sup>15</sup>

There is also mentioned that in Phaltan state there were 84 villages in the state therefore there was term called Phaltan Chauryanshi (eighty four).<sup>16</sup>

1. Miragaon
2. Dalwadi

3. Kalaj
4. Nandal
5. Andrud
6. Malawadi
7. Jinti
8. Saskal
9. Kurwali BK
10. Songaon
11. Wagholi
12. Surwadi
13. Tavadi
14. Murum
15. Somanthali
16. Salape
17. Sonavadi BK
18. Adraki(KD)
19. Sarade
20. Hingangaon
21. Nirgudi
22. Dudhebavi

23. Adraki (BK)
24. Tadwale
25. Kusur
26. Alajapur
27. kapshi
28. Takalwada
29. Mandavkhadak
30. Sathe
31. Vinchurni
32. Khamgaon
33. Kapadgaon
34. Tirakwadi
35. Sonavadi(KD)
36. Nimbhore
37. Wadajal
38. Saswad
39. Koparde
40. Korhale
41. Wadgaon
42. Jawali

43. Veloshi
44. Khadaki
45. Miradhe
46. Kurvali(Bk)
47. Gunavare
48. Kambleshwar
49. Tardap
50. Gokhali
51. Munjawadi
52. Barad
53. Rajale
54. Rajuri
55. Ravadi(BK)
56. Bhilkathi
57. Tathawada
58. Aradgaon
59. Tambve
60. Koregaon
61. Dhaval
62. Vakhari



63. Girvi
64. Wadale
65. Upalave
66. Taradgaon
67. Bibi
68. Sangavi
69. Pimpard
70. Wathar
71. Asu
72. Bhadali(BK)
73. khunte
74. Nimbalak
75. Ravadi(KD)
76. Bhadali(KD)
77. Padegaon
78. Hol
79. Vidani
80. Phaltan
- 81.

## **THE DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE RULER OF PHALTAN STATE: -**

The Chief was the head of Administration. He had absolute control over financial matters. He had the full jurisdiction and administrative powers of the state.<sup>17</sup>

### **1. PERSONAL PRIVILEGES: -**

As the chief of the state he had various privileges prerequisites. They are as follows: -

1. He alone had the privileges to modify treaty rights and engagements with British Government.
2. To make agreement with the Indian states on administrative matters.
3. Matters involving the Ruler's prerogative and personal favors.
4. Grant of *Jagirs* or *Inams* or increase in the existing ones.
5. Release of prisoners as a matter of grace.
6. Grant of Medals, titles and birth-date rewards.

### **2. FINANCIAL POWERS: -**

1. Modification in annual financial budget and modification in the items, which can be, classed as fixed assignments in the state budget.

2. Increase of taxation.
3. Remission of land revenue or any other state dues except irrecoverable dues not exceeding Rs.-100/-
4. Raising of loans on the guarantee of state finances.
5. Matters of investing state money of a permanent nature.
6. Sanctioning of money exceeding Rs.100/-.
7. Sanctioning of excess expenditure over budget allotments where such expenditure is above Rs. 5000/-.

### 3. ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS: -

He was the sole prop of state administration.

1. Village cases and permanent modifications of allowances
2. Exemption to persons from appearing in civil courts.
3. Introduction of constitutional reforms
4. Organization of state Police force on permanent basis.
5. Granting of personal or special allowances to state servants.
6. Commercial concessions and monopolies to be given to trades vested with chief.
7. The right to sale immovable state property.<sup>18</sup>

**JUDICIAL POWERS: -**

The Phaltan state becomes the Satara *Jagirdar* in 1818 A.D. During the Peshwa period the great Satara *Jagirdars* exercised the powers of life and death and all the functions of sovereignty uncontrolled but ever since the conquest of the Deccan by the British they had been subjected more and more to the wholesome supervision of the British Govt. to which they were subordinate, until it had been resolved that the serious criminal cases involved the punishment of death and imprisonment for life should be tried by a criminal court of justice presided over by the commissioner or his judicial assistant in association with the chief within whose territory the offence might have been committed or his minister and other native assessors of rank, the preliminary proceedings being as far as possible, conducted by the *Jagirdars* themselves. Since 1849 A.D. they had been required to discontinue the practice of allowing disputes to be settled by means of grim ordeals.

They had so far co-operated with government in their sanitary measures as to maintain vaccinators subjected to the supervision of the superintendent of Vaccination for the southern division of the presidency.

These chiefs being now Feudatories of the British Empire, their territories could not be viewed as foreign state in the meaning of Act I of 1849 A.D. since offences committed in them by British subjects or by

subjects of the *Jagirdars* within British territory, no longer involve important international questions.

Appeals by Petition against the acts of *jagirdars* were preferred for report to the chiefs and on the receipt of the their replies such instructions as appear necessary were issued. Serious criminal cases involving capital punishment for life were referred to Government for confirmation on but no further interference was allowed.<sup>19</sup>

From Nimbaraj I (1270A.D) to Shrimant Malojirao alias Nanasaheb Naik Nimbalkar (1948A.D.). there were in all twenty-five Rulers of the Phaltan state. These Rulers used all the paraphernalia reserved for Rulers. They held usual Durbars at Phaltan. They had their own Mankaris, Sardars, Darkdars. The Rulers granted lands to religious persons or temples of their choice. The last two Rulers Shrimant Mudhojirao Bapusaheb and Shrimant Malojirao Nanasaheb were progressive Rulers.

#### **WOMEN RULERS: -**

It is important and interesting to note that whenever there was no rightful heir or the Ruler was minor, administration of the Phaltan state was run efficiently by the Royal Ladies. After the death of Mudhoji III in 1765 A.D. his wife Sagunabai alias Aaisaheb well known for her piety, purity and benign rule administered the state for a short time but was deposed by the

Peshwa Madhavrao Ballal and one Soyraji was raised to the chief ship. In 1774 A.D. Sagunabai adopted a son Maloji III and with the aid of the Peshwa Madhavrao Narayan alias Sawai Madhavrao regained control of the state, Maloji III died in 1777 A.D. he was succeeded by his adopted son Janrao (1791A.D.-1825A.D.) and Sagunabai once more administered the state till her death in 1791 A.D.<sup>20</sup>

Sagunabai alias Aaisaheb was compared with Aahilyabai Holkar and other Maratha royal ladies such as Anubai Ghorpade of Ichalkaranji, Dwarakabai Ghorpade of Kapashi etc. After death of Sagunabai alias Aaisaheb in 1791 A.D. Janrao continued in the service of the Peshwas till their fall in 1818 A.D., after which the state continued under the subordination of the Rajas of Satara but under the guarantee of British government conferred by a treaty dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1820A.D. on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1825A.D. on Janrao's death without an heir, the *Jagir* was attached by the Raja of Satara; but on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1827A.D. Bajaji was allowed to succeed on payment of *Nazarana* or succession fee of Rs. 30,000 Janrao's widow Rani Sahebji bai alias Bayasaheb was allowed to adopt Mahadaji, the grandson of Janrao's brother. After his adoption Mahadaji was named Mudhoji. During his minority Sahebji Bai acted as regent and ably administered the state till her death in 1853A.D.<sup>21</sup>

**STATE KARBHARI: -**

Next to the Ruler of Chief, there was the state *Karbhari* or *Diwan*. Many times the Ruler was engaged in war expeditions and in the meantime the state *Karbhari* run the administration of the state in the name of the Ruler. The state *Karbhari* possessed adequate administrative, revenue and judicial powers.

Generally there was a regular state *Karbhari* from beginning to the end in Phaltan state. Therefore it is not wrong to see the position, duties and functions of the *Karbhari* of Phaltan. He held very important and key position in the administration. He was the mainstay of the state after the chief around which the administrative machinery evolved. He had financial and administrative powers.

**1. FINANCIAL RIGHTS: -**

- a. He was authorized to sanction all expenditure under all departments except those items of expenditure, which were reserved for the sanction of the chief.
- b. He was authorized to sanction appropriation from one sub-head to another sub-head from one major head to another.
- c. In case of public works department he was authorized to sanction all expenditure provided for in the budget.

- d. To order all payments of bills.
- e. To sanction all payments of bills beyond six months.
- f. To sanction payments of provident fund dues on the recommendation of heads of departments.
- g. To sanction the grants of gratuity to retiring state servants.
- h. To sanction necessary reappropriation in the municipal or local fund budget.

**2. ADMINISTRATIVE RIGHTS: -**

- a. He was authorized to make promotions up to Rs. 20 in all the departments of the state.
- b. To issue standing orders of all kinds to state servants.
- c. To sanction arrangements for the routine work of officers.
- d. To make temporary appointments
- e. To sanction transfers within the same departments.
- f. To relieve all inferior servants from service when they become liable to retirement
- g. To depute state servants in and out of the state limits for the state business and to sanction expenditure for that purpose.



- h. To dispose off all matters relating to execution of decrees and summons in the civil or criminal or revenue department without reference.
- i. To hear appeals under the hereditary officers and also to hear appeals on the decisions of the assistant revenue officer.
- j. He issued licenses for arms, ammunition, poisons, drugs etc.
- k. He watched the working of the municipalities and village committees and village cattle.
- l. He was responsible for the collection of the land revenue of the state and all matters relating thereto.
- m. He was to inspect the Mamlatdars office and examine his records and treasury accounts.
- n. While he was on tour he had to examine a certain number of the *Rayats* receipt books and to compare them with account books kept by the villages officers.
- o. He had to examine carefully record of rights, registers and see that the entries were properly made.
- p. He had to enquire into the grievances of the *Rayats* on the spot.
- q. He issued licenses for the retail sale of opium.

Unfortunately the name of chief of *Karbhari* is not found up to 1848A.D. but during the reign of Sahebjibai alias Bayasaheb Nimbalkar Amrutrao Khanvilkar was *Karbhari* of Phaltan state.<sup>22</sup>

Krishnaji Chintaman was *Karbhari* in 1855 A.D. Shankar Bhalchandra Bapat B.A. was *Karbhari* appointed as *Karbhari* in November 1893 A.D. He worked well. Besides this U.P. Chirputkar, A.N. Pradhan etc. were state *Karbharies*.

Sometime to assist *Karbhari* British Government appointed administrator and joint administrator was in force for some time. The pay of administrator was Rs. 350 /- per month. Due to this the administration of Phaltan state was influenced by British mode of Administration.

Shri. Godbole K.V. was the *Karbhari* of Phaltan state from 7-6-1920A.D. to 31-5-1930A.D. He was elevated to the position of *Diwan* on 9-6-1930A.D. From 1930A.D. onwards the post of *Karbhari* was abolished and his designation was *Diwan*. State Gazette was issued and *Karbhari* became *Diwan* hence onward.<sup>23</sup>

During Shrimant Malojirao's reign (1916A.D. to 1948A.D.) state *Karbhari* received the title of "Raobahadur" by the British Government. State *Karbhari* supervised all the staff of the state. He had the powers of

modern collector, session judge, district judge, district magistrate, first class sub-judge and district Police superintendent.

The Ruler as well as the state *Karbhari* use to visit inspection tours throughout the state. During this inspection tour the subjects submitted their grievances against the local officers. Many times these grievances were redressed by the Ruler or the state *Karbhari* on the spot. Generally the state *Karbhari* was appointed by the Ruler and was responsible to him (Ruler). If he lost the mercy of the Ruler, the state *Karbhari* was removed.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS OF THE PHALTAN STATE: -**

Since the inception of the Phaltan state for the administrative purposes there were two divisions

1. Ram Sansthan.
2. Phaltan state.

“The Ram sansthan state has been completely separated from the proper and the separate statement of its receipts and expenditure has been made out.”<sup>24</sup>

Six villages Vidani, Dudhebhavi, Chirakwadi, Saskal, Nirgudi, Sonavadi were *Inams* to Ram sansthan.<sup>25</sup> The rights of these villages were to Ram sansthans previously the day-to-day work of this Ram sansthan was run by joint administrator but since 1882-83 A.D. this Ram sansthan was

separated and its work was run separately villages remained with Phaltan state.<sup>26</sup> The same administrative setup continued up to 1948 A.D. the year in which the state was only one division.

### **REVENUE SYSTEM OF THE PHALTAN STATE: -**

#### **LAND SYSTEM: -**

In medieval Maharashtra the unit of any assessment was never a big town. It was a village upon which the revenue system solely depended. The village was the basic unit of the economic life of the Maharashtra and the Phaltan state was no exception. As agriculture was the way of life of most of the people, the village was the centre of economic activity.<sup>27</sup>

The village has been referred to by several names such as 'Grama', 'Dehe', 'Mouja', and 'Khede' etc.<sup>28</sup> The village head-man i.e. Patil was assisted by the Kulkarni and Chougala. These three were in charge of the revenue collection of the villages.

In the Phaltan state the land system was purely in the hands of the Ruler. The Maratha land system had its deep roots in the system adopted by Malik Amber. The methods of measurement, assessment and settlement were the same till the last decade of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century.<sup>29</sup> In Maharashtra different types of land tenure prevailed. *Watan*, *Inam*, *Saranjam* and *Miras* were some of the land tenures based upon the type of services rendered by

an individual to the state. Saranjam revenue was a military tenure and the land granted to an individual by the state was enjoyed by him till he performed the military service. The methods of assessment were either kamal settlement and maujewar settlement. The assessment of the revenue was according to the quantity of land.

1. Uttam- first rate.
2. Madhyam-middle rate.
3. Kanishta- poor land.

The land was measured with the help of a measuring rod called as *Kathi*(pole). The usual measure was the 'Shivshahi Kathi' meaning a kathi of five cubits and five closed fists. A cubit was equal to fourteen tansus and the length of Kathi was two tansus.<sup>30</sup> The land was further divided into Chawar Bigha and Pand. The measurement in the Phaltan state was little different from that in the adjoining area.

1034 sq. ft= 1Bigha.

1Bigha=1/18 Pand.

72Bighas=1 Chawar.

The Bigha is also termed as 'Taka' in Terdal Mahal of Sangli state.<sup>31</sup> A Bigha was equal to 25000 sq. ft. While studying the land revenue system of Phaltan state in earlier part we do not come across any regular

system such as a register of areas of holding and various rents as regards these situation in this part of Maharashtra Alexander Roger remarks, "The very foundation of any revenue system viz. a register of areas of holdings and of rents was not in existence and could not be suddenly improvised."<sup>32</sup> During the Maratha period all the revenue in the state was regarded as the property of the Ruler of the state who exercised the right of supreme ownership by collecting land rent in the form of land revenue while the Ruler exercised the right of supreme ownership, the cultivated lands and the adjoining waste lands forests and meadow lands were held by village communities.<sup>33</sup>

#### **RAYATWARI SYSTEM: -**

From the document that we have collected it is indicated that there was the Rayatwari system in the state. Generally in the Bombay presidency the Rayatwari system was prevalent. In the Rayatwari system the land assessment was derived according to which the revenue for the year was fixed annually for each village as whole in accordance with the character of seasons.<sup>34</sup>

#### **TYPES OF LAND IN THE STATE: -**

After 1849A.D when the Satara principality was annexed the Satara collector undertook a survey of the Satara feudatories. In these systems

Mr. Oglivy was appointed to make a survey of a Phaltan land system. He produced a report on the types of land and the crops in these state.

1. Rich Black clay
2. Flat
3. Stony and Gravelly.<sup>35</sup>

A chain of hills trends along the southern boundary of the state and on the south-west the country is hilly and high lying, gradually sloping towards the east for a few miles after which it became a fairly level plain up to the eastern boundary.<sup>36</sup> Agriculture is the chief profession of the bulk of the population of the state. The northern part of the state is irrigated by the Nira right bank canal after 1925A.D., but the southern part is mainly depend upon the rainfall. Sugarcane and cotton were the principal crops in the northern part and Jowar, Bajari, Wheat , Curdy and Gram were the principal crops in the southern part.<sup>37</sup> The area under the forest was 13048 acres. The receipts from the forest revenue amounted to Rs.1817. Separate establishment was maintained for the protection on expenditure of Rs.639.<sup>38</sup>

## **DEVELOPMENT OF LAND REVENUE SYSTEM: -**

### **THE REVENUE SURVEY: -**

British introduced revenue survey settlement in various state and other parts of India. Major W.C. Anderson was the superintendent of revenue service settlement of Mysore and Satara territory. Under his general supervision revenue survey settlement was first introduced in the Phaltan state in 1869A.D.<sup>39</sup> It had been of great benefit to the people in sweeping away a number of arbitrary cases. The rates were guaranteed for thirty years. These rates were moderate and were easily paid by the *Rayat* in ordinary years. The position of the people and the cultivators as specially had much improved during thirty years. The guaranteed period expired in 1899A.D. Proposals for carrying out revision survey operation on the partial system were submitted in December 1909 A.D. The cost of these operations was estimated to be nearly Rs.50, 000. A long correspondence ensued and it was finally decided by the Commissioner, southern division and political agent with the concurrence of the chief that instead of undertaking the elaborate and expensive operation of revenue survey, the present assessment in the state was to be raised by the 25% all around from the beginning of the year. Accordingly steps were taken to raise the existing rates of assessment by employing extra establishment and work had been almost completed.<sup>40</sup>



The revision survey settlement was made in the year 1924-25 A.D.<sup>41</sup> The land revenue is collected in two installments. The first installment falls due on the 25<sup>th</sup> February and the second on the 25<sup>th</sup> March every year.<sup>42</sup>

#### **LAND CULTIVATION: -**

There are 80 villages in the state out of which 74 were *Khalasa* and the rest *Dumala*. Six villages have been assigned as endowment to the diety Shriram and this estate is dominated Ram sansthan. It yielded an income from all sources of Rs. 13442 in 1887 A.D. a separate Karbhari exercising the power of a Mamlatdar in the revenue matters those of a subordinate judge in civil matters and in criminal the powers of a magistrate of the 3<sup>rd</sup> class has been appointed to manage its affairs under Mudhojirao direct supervision.<sup>43</sup> The total area of the forestland was 13048 acres. The total revenue amounted to Rs. 1817. Separate establishment was maintained for protection an expenditure of Rs.639.<sup>44</sup>

The most important revenue officer was the Mamlatdar.

#### **MAMLATDAR: -**

Next to Karbhari there was Mamlatdar in the Phaltan state assisted by one co-operative Mamlatdar.<sup>45</sup> Mamlatdar's main duty was to collect

revenue of the whole state with the help of co-operative Mamlatdar, Circle Inspectors, Village Patils and village Kulkarnis.

The Mamlatdar was careful to send all the accounts of the cultivation, required to visit every village four times every season and to inform himself most particularly of everything relating to each that they may be prepared to afford every information to the Ruler. The Mamlatdar was appointed by the chief and had the rights of first class magistrate. He also took inspection tours throughout the state and maintained financial account of the state. Thus Mamlatdar was the most important link in the administrative chain. He was the head of the taluka treasury and received all money for the state. As local Magistrate he was responsible for maintenance of public peace in the Taluka and for the prompt prevention, detection and punishment of crime. In this regard he was the head of the local police who was subordinate to him. He was the head of a revenue court and adjudicated in revenue assistance cases as well as cases under the Mamlatdars courts Act.<sup>46</sup>

In November 1819 A.D. there was mention of Krishnaji Sadashiv as a Mamlatdar of Phaltan and in 1832 A.D. Ramji Mahadev was occupied the post of Mamlatdar in Phaltan state. This is earliest reference of Mamlatdar. In 1840-41 A.D. Visaji Bhaskar was the Mamlatdar of Phaltan state.<sup>47</sup>

**MAMLATDAR OF CO-OPERATIVE: -**

Up to 1931A.D. there was only one post of Mamlatdar in the Phaltan state but in 1931A.D. additional post of co-operative Mamlatdar was created in the state. The need of this new Mamlatdar was that there were in charge co-operative societies in the state. Co-operative movement in the state was in full swing and 62 co-operative societies were in the state. Shri. N.B Halabe was appointed and this new post at Mamlatdar on 22-11-1932 A.D. and remained on this post up to 1944A.D. He had 2nd class magistrates powers. The Phaltan state achieved rapid progress.<sup>48</sup>

**SURVEY MAMLATDAR: -**

Survey Mamlatdar N. B. Kapileshwar was appointed on 14-10-1938 A.D. as a survey Mamlatdar in the state as survey work was going on in the Phaltan state. He had the powers like district Inspector of land record.<sup>49</sup> Thus in 1938A.D. there were three Mamlatdar in the state. Later on in addition to survey work Survey Mamlatdar had additional charges of purchase officer and director of civil supplies and he control of prices. Thus there were some charges in revenue administration under Malojirao. It is told that in 1818A.D., the monthly pay of Mamlatdar was Rs.100.

**LOCAL REVENUE OFFICERS: -**

Patil and Kulkarni were the local revenue officers of the state. in the Phaltan state there were in all 80 Mulaki (revenue) Patils even though the state consisted of 80 villages.<sup>50</sup> Patil also maintained law and order in his village. He solved the problems of the local people. Patil was a link between villagers and state officers. The Patil was responsible for the collection of revenue and its transfer to the higher revenue authority. The Patil was not an elected officer. It was a hereditary office, which could be sold and purchased. Generally the Patil belongs to Maratha and Dhangar or any other castes.

The office insignia of the Patil was the plough, which showed his duties in connection with land. All official papers before this insignia of Patil against his name. His main duty was to bring the idle and barren land under cultivation and to make it fruit bearing. Besides the Patil was also the Chief Police magistrate and chief judicial officer of the village.

**KULKARNI: -**

Next to the Patil came the Kulkarni, invariably a Brahmin. He was the Patils clerk and the village accounted and record keeper. He kept a detailed record of revenue payment, agriculture holdings and other properties in the village. The office of the Kulkarni could also be sold and purchased. The

village headman and accounts were remunerated by means of lands, the *Inam* or rent free land.<sup>51</sup>

Besides Kulkarni there were *Balutedars* in every village. There was one village watchman who would carry the message of Patil, Kulkarni to higher officers such as Mamlatdar, Karbhari and the Chief.

#### **THE SOURCES OF INCOME: -**

Generally the land revenue in the Phaltan state was collected twice a year, on 25<sup>th</sup> February and 25<sup>th</sup> march.

Any damage to the crops caused by unforeseen factors was to be reported immediately to the authorities that would then order necessary remission in land revenue.

Land revenue was the major source of income of the state. It was not fixed. It varied from years to year. Some year it was increased but sometimes it was decreased also. In the year 1876-77A.D., the revenue of the state was 1,27,578.<sup>52</sup> In the year 1878-79 the revenue was 95094/-.<sup>53</sup> In 1912-13A.D. it was about Rs. 2,23,611, in 1942-43A.D. it was Rs. 4,08,523/-.<sup>54</sup> These figures indicate that there was no fixed amount of land revenue.

In addition to the land revenue there were several other sources of income. All unclaimed property belonged to the Ruler. He also received

presents from the officers and servants, spoils of war and plunder also sometimes added to the income of the State. During Peshwa period Phaltan forces joined Karnataka expeditions and other important expeditions.<sup>55</sup>

The Phaltan state also received income from house tax, tax on animals, Market tax, tax on pastoral ground, *Jakat* and *Abkari* stamp duty fine etc. In spite of all these taxes the Phaltan state was not prosperous because its income was low as land was not fertile and it always became the victim of famine. The Ruler spent his income on various items such as maintaining his family and paying the salary of his administrative staff, to meet the expeditions on military administration, constructing roads number of public works constructed by the Ruler. Lamps were also provided in the streets, a few trees were planted, some storage reservoirs were projected and built by the state for benefit of the common man.

#### **CURRENCY: -**

Little information is available on currency in the Phaltan state from the study of their records. It was at the beginning a Maratha state in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and in the 19<sup>th</sup> century it came under the control of East India Company. Therefore it seems that Maratha currency was in circulation in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and later on the 'Rupee' of East India Company was in circulation.

But there are some documents, which throw light on this issue. A document from Poona archives says about the Hukkeri coin, which was in circulation in the Phaltan state.<sup>56</sup> About this Hukkeri coin Shri.G.H. Khare with the help of a document from the Sawantwadi Chitnis records has given some more information about the Nishani and Hukkeri coins.

This article by Shri. Khare makes a reference to Hukkeri coins (Hukkeri, a Taluka place in Belgaun district Karnataka state) being coined at the new mint of Pachapur or Padsapur.<sup>57</sup>

Dr. K.N. Chitnis says that Hukkeri coins were struck by the Adilshah of Bijapur.<sup>58</sup> The Phaltan state was the creation of the Adilshahi. Therefore this Hukkeri coin might have been in circulation in the Phaltan state.

Another coin, which we come across, was Chandwadi coin which was also in circulation in the Phaltan state. This Chandwadi rupee was a silver coin and was used for making silver threads by the artisans of Paithan. In 1799A.D. some Chandwadi rupees were turned into Malkapuri coins at the rate of Rs.25-0-0 percent.<sup>59</sup> There was no mint in the state during British period.<sup>60</sup> In the year 1839A.D. the British Rupee was introduced in the area of Satara and their *Jagirdars*. The following extract corroborates this-“It is known to Government that a Proclamation as to the introduction of the Company’s rupee was issued in 1839A.D. by the Raja and that in the year

1840A.D., ten lakhs rupees of the company were brought here, from the general treasury in Bombay, in exchange for the Chandor rupees sent from Satara to the Presidency from June 1840A.D. up to the present time, company's rupees for the payment of the troops have also been sent from Poona here and this means about two and a half lakhs of the companies rupees had been introduced into this country and I am happy to report that the present market value of the company's rupee is 4.5% above that of Chandor rupee.<sup>61</sup>

During British period there was no mint in the Phaltan state but earlier there may have been some private mint under the supervision of the state.

#### **TRADE AND COMMERCE: -**

Trade and commerce is the nerve centre of the state. Trade and commerce is quiet likely to flourish under favorable conditions. In case of Phaltan state, the Rulers were progressive by nature, but the geographical situation was wholly unfavorable for prosperous trade. The town of Phaltan was 70miles away from the main southern S.M.C. railway station.<sup>62</sup>

There are no trades and manufactures worth mention in the state, the country being purely agricultural. There are, however a few handlooms and oil presses. The number of looms was 205 and that of presses 45. Cotton silk



and woolen clothes are manufactured on these looms. Curdy oil, Jowar and wheat largely exported in bullock carts to Satara and Wai and by railway to Bombay. The imports chiefly consist of salt, rice, Sugar, Copra and coconuts, groceries, bangles, hardware's, copper and brass utensils, cloth, yarn, timber, matches, Kerosene, petrol, oil cakes and other foreign articles.<sup>63</sup> On the whole trade and commerce was far from being satisfactory.

#### JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION: -

There were two phases of judicial administration in the Phaltan state.

- i. 1284A.D. to 1818A.D. There was Delhi Sultans and Maratha system judiciary prevalent and
- ii. After 1818A.D.-1948A.D. Judiciary was modeled on the British pattern.

In the first phase from 1284 A.D. to 1818A.D. chief or the Ruler was the ultimate authority and the highest court of justice in the state. The Phaltan Ruler held a regular Durbar or court and disposed of the cases. He had full right to punish or exempt anybody. Many times the Ruler was assisted by his *Karbhari* and other officers. There were also *Karbhari* or *Diwans* courts. The last unit of the administration was the village administration where Patil and Kulkarni solved disputes of the villagers. There were village *Panchayats* which decided on the basis of tradition or

dharmshastras. The punishments were severe. The offenders or culprits had to undergo severe ordeals. For first phase unfortunately we do not get more detailed information of Judiciary system.

#### **CHAPLIN'S ACCOUNT: -**

As regards the Maratha criminal justice in the southern Maratha country, Mr. Chaplin the officer appointed by Elphinstone, remarks, "The few remains of law and justice that have survived the different resolutions are evidently relics of the ancient Hindu Institution. The Mohammedan kings of Bijapur do not seem to interfere much with the administration of justice beyond the seat of government."<sup>64</sup> Under the Peshwas there appears to be no regularity in trying cases or referring them to *Panchayat*. The Sarsubhas of the Karnataka prant and the Mamlatdars under him were only representative of the government, both in revenue and judicial affairs.<sup>65</sup>

In the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the central authority had been further weakened by the family struggle among the Peshwas. The Sardars and *Jagirdars* enjoyed great powers in the dealing with the both the criminal and civil cases. The powers of great *Jagirdars* had been under no control for the last 20 or 30 years, except the control exercised by General Wellesley. Within their own *Jagirs* they appeared to have had much authority as the feudal barons formally had in Europe.<sup>66</sup>

On this background in his judicial reforms, which, Elphinstone introduced into the territory, he tried to maintain the authority of village headman.<sup>67</sup> He had instructed his officers to modify the existing methods and Institutions of justice wherever possible, but they should always try to maintain the Maratha system.

Commenting upon the judicial system Elphinstone remarked, "There was no regular administration of justice. No certain means of filing a suit and no fixed rules of proceeding after it had been filed."<sup>68</sup> The Phaltan state was no exception to this system.

This was the type of judicial system that prevailed throughout the territory. Fortunately for second phase (1818A.D. to 1948A.D.) there are some accounts, which shed light on the administration of the justice in the Phaltan state.

After the fall of the Peshwas like other *Jagirdars*, Naik Nimbalkar also came under the control of East India Company with whom they concluded a treaty in 1820A.D. Thus from then in the Phaltan state British introduced their own judicial system.

Thus in early times before introduction of a regular system of civil and criminal courts into the state in 1851-52A.D., there was neither a

recognized code of laws nor a prescribed form of trial nor any regular courts for administering justice.

However there were civil and criminal courts in the state. The chief, his *Karbhari*, Mamlatdar had exercised civil as well as criminal powers.

About the judicial system of administration of the Phaltan state in the year 1857A.D. Mr. T. Ogilvy suggest as, "Brief notice of the mode in which civil and criminal justice are administered. Civil and criminal justice is administered in imitation of the mode in the Satara territory, which later is in strict conformity within the Bombay code of Regulations.

Nature of punishments awarded for criminal offences-punishments inflicted are those prescribed in the regulations. All serious punishments referred through the commissioner for the confirmation of Government."<sup>69</sup>

#### **NATURE OF CRIMES: -**

A few cases may be mentioned in which sentences of fine were inflicted, contracting a *pat* marriage without the sanction of the state, adultery, wife refusing to reside with her husband, thefts, robberies, when the property was recovered, rape indecent assault, gambling, affray mischief's attempting to commit suicide and drinking of liquor by a person of high caste. This was a common nature of crimes committed.

The Administrative Report of the year 1873-74A.D. threw light on the Phaltan state Judicial Administration, "The Satara *Jagirdars* were formally under the Satara Raj, and became tributaries to the British government on the lapse of that territory in 1849A.D. They retained all their former rights and privileges, with the exception of the powers of life and death, and of adjudicating upon some of the more serious criminal cases. Their judicial administration is conducted on the Principle of British law."

#### **NATURE OF THE JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION: -**

Criminal and civil justice was administered by Chiefs themselves with the aid of subordinate courts. In civil suits special appeals from the decision from the *Jagirdars* lay with the political agent. In criminal cases heinous offences requiring capital punishment or transportation for life were tried by the political agent aided by two assessors, the preliminary proceedings being conducted by the *jagirdars* criminal appeals against their decisions also with the political agents.<sup>70</sup>

During (1871-72A.D. and 1872-73A.D.) the administration of civil and criminal justice in the Phaltan state was noticed and in that of 1872-72A.D. it was mentioned that government had found it necessary to assume for time the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the *Jagir* during the earlier part of the year under review, the revenue management was in the hands of the

Chief, but its branch of the administration also was found to be very badly conducted. The Chief refused to obey the orders of the Government and to pay the officers whom it had directed to be employed in his state, or to settle the claims of the '*Darrakdars*' and others, which had been decided against him. There thus remained no alternative but to make complaint the partial attachment, which had already been carried out, and to assume the whole management of the *Jagir*.<sup>71</sup> This shows that the British Government interfered in the civil and criminal justice. The Chief did not disposed off the cases rightly or regularly.

In the year 1889-90A.D. 385 criminal cases were tried by five Magisterial courts and in 96 of these the accused convicted in the Phaltan state and 421 civil suits were disposed off by the subordinate judges.

In the year 1884-85 A.D. the Indian penal and civil and criminal codes, the evidence Act, the Police Act and 11 other important Acts in force in British territory were introduced in the Phaltan state.<sup>72</sup>

#### **MAMALATDARS COURT ACT: -**

The Mamlatdars court disposed of 37 out of 43 cases leaving a balance of 6 in the year 1926-27A.D.<sup>73</sup>

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE: -**

The number of criminal courts at work during the year 1888-89 A.D. was 5. The number of offences dealt with by the courts for the year 1888-89A.D. was 385 against 410 last year. Only 96 were convicted while 281 were discharged without trial. There were no trials in the session's court. The Jagirdar heard nine appeals in all of which the sentences were modified or reversed.

**APPEALS: -**

There was two appellate courts- the *Huzur* or the Chiefs court exercising High Court and sessions court powers and the state *Karbharis* court exercising district Magistrate powers.<sup>74</sup>

**POLICE ADMINISTRATION: -**

To maintain law and order the Police department was created by the British Government. In the Phaltan state there was one Chief Police officer called *Faujdar* who was of the rank of sub-Inspector. Under him there was one *Jamadar* one *Hawaladar*, one Naik and some armed and unarmed Police.

But previously the duties of the Police were carried out by the military horsemen, *seebundies* and village Patil and *Rakhawaldars*. The number of Police at the end of the Year 1934-35A.D. was 86 as against 91 in the year 1933-34A.D. The number of armed Police styled as 'Garrison' is 39.

They are armed with smoothbore muzzle loading guns and are employed to guard the treasury, the Palace and the jail. The number of mounted Police is two. They are armed with swords and spears.<sup>75</sup> Mr. Chaplin gives the following account about the Police system that prevailed in the country. It was conducted in the villages by the Patel and Karkun under them by the Tullaries and *seth sundee* or local militia and in large towns by the *seebundi* establishment assisted by the tullaries. On the occurrence of robbery or other crime a general search was made after offenders by means of the impression of their footsteps.<sup>76</sup>

#### **GUARDS: -**

In the year 1938A.D. the total strengths of guards was 45 including the band. The guards had *Jamadars*, one-quarter-master *Havaladar*, two Hawaldars, one Naik armoured, four lance Naik's and 35 sepoy.<sup>77</sup>

#### **THE GENERAL DUTIES: -**

The guards continued to render help to the criminal investigation department whenever required. The guards performed the duties of guarding the following places

1. The Palace
2. The *Huzur* treasury
3. State prison.<sup>78</sup>



**VILLAGE POLICE: -**

In the villages the same old pattern continued. The Police Patil was the head of the Village Police. Every Police Patil had *sanadis* or *Rakhawaldars* under him. All these were usually *Watandars*. The police Patil was furnished with a *sanad* of his appointment from the Huzur. The duties of the Police Patil were

1. To execute the orders of Huzur or state Karbhari or Mamlatdar and the orders of the officer in charge of Police station.
2. To maintain the piece in the village
3. To investigate crimes and to detect criminals. In the Phaltan state there were 80 Police Patils. This system was continued till the merger of the Phaltan state.

**PRISON: -**

There was only one jail in Phaltan. It was built in the year 1938-39A.D. previously culprits were put into forts. It was a well-ventilated building on a high level in the town. The jail regulations were strictly observed. The chief medical officer of Phaltan state was Superintendent of the Jail. There was once look-up at Phaltan for the under trial. It was under the charge of the Mamlatdar of Phaltan.<sup>79</sup>

The prisoners were employed on the polo-ground, on the water pump, on the printing press and on miscellaneous work. The total expenditure on account of establishment charges and on maintenance and clothing of prisoners amounted to Rs. 1001 for the year 1898-99A.D. and for the year 1897-98 Rs.787.<sup>80</sup> There was no separate accommodation for female convicts. The official and non-official visitors inspected the jail periodically. Persons got remissions according to the marks system. The chief medical officer of the state acts as Superintendent of the Jail and he looks after the discipline, health, cleanliness and all other matters concerning the Jail. The general administration of the jail is conducted on the lines of the rules laid down in the Bombay jail manual.<sup>81</sup>

#### **PRISON INDUSTRIES: -**

Facilities were given to the prisoners to learn some vocation to enable them to start a new life on their release and as such the Durbar had started handlooms in their prison, which were run by the convicts. A good deal of printing work was also done by them. There was one lock up for under-trial prisoners. One hundred six under trial prisoners were admitted in the year 1934-35 A.D. of whom 64 remained at the end of the year.<sup>82</sup> This jail was used for the prisoners till the merger of the state. Now it is under the control of *Tahshildar*.

**MUNICIPALITY: -**

After the uprising of 1857A.D. the British had started the policy of association. Various Acts were passed and promulgated in British India. The Acts had created an atmosphere of liberty, equality and fraternity, hitherto unknown to the people of India. The first step towards awakening the people from their deep slumber of the ages was the initiation of the principle of election. The people saw the emergence of the local self-governing bodies in India.

Municipality was the first step towards the constitutional awareness among the people. The Phaltan state was not lagging behind in this sphere. In 1868A.D. the Phaltan Municipality was established. In initial board of members of 16 nominated members of whom half the number was elected and half nominated by the state. Though initially it appears to be a nominated body. It was the beginning of a democratic set-up. Among the eight members representing the official quota, the state *Karbhari* was included. The state *Karbhari* was the ex-officio president of the municipality. In the year 1929A.D. the principle of election based upon elective franchise was introduced in the state. The elected body elected its president from amongst the elected members. The body also elected the

Chairman of the managing Committee. Above these officers, the Durbar exercised general supervision.

As the town was thinly populated and inhabited on plans the source of income was quite insufficient. The heads of income of the municipality were generally

1. House tax.
2. Land tax.
3. Octroi .
4. Taxes on vehicles.
5. Tolls.
6. Water rates.
7. Conservancy.
8. Fees levied on the individuals sitting in the weekly *Bazar*. Generally the weekly *Bazar* day in the Phaltan was Sunday. The same practice is still continued.
9. Tax on loaded carts.

The municipality had to perform its usual duties, the following may specially mentioned as the works done this year. 20 street lamps have been added to the existing number of 20, 24 public latrines of corrugated iron sheets have been purchased and put up at the recommendation of Dr.

Anderson deputy sanitary commissioner, four new road were commenced and almost all the existing ones were repaired, a fire pump has been purchased for use in the town. One cistern and four public stand pipes have been constructed, the construction of u shaped *Guttars* the necessity and important of which was long felt.<sup>83</sup> Even today Phaltan Municipality is working well.

#### **THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT: -**

The Ruler had fully understood the importance of health and sanitation. A charitable dispensary was opened at Phaltan in 1883A.D. In the year 1885A.D., 7744 persons were under medical treatment of whom 7724 were discharged cured and 20 died.<sup>84</sup>

Later on there were two charitable dispensaries in the state one in Taradgaon and other in Barad. The Phaltan Local board continue to maintain two dispensary centres at Barad (Eastern division) and Taradgaon (Western division). The medical officers in charge of the dispensaries were duly qualified. The medical officer in charge of the Phaltan dispensary was also the superintendent of the Phaltan jail. The daily average attendance in Phaltan dispensary was 110.02.<sup>85</sup> Dr. G.S. Phansalkar L.C.P.s worked as a medical chief of the hospital in 1938A.D.<sup>86</sup>

**MEDICAL RELIEF FOR WOMEN: -****SHRI SAGUNA MATA MATERNITY HOME PHALTAN: -**

Shri. Saguna mata Maternity Home, Phaltan, was started as a charitable institution on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 1928A.D. Mainly through the efforts and kind patronized of Shrimant.S. Laxmidevi, Ranisaheb of Phaltan. "The home is named after the most revered Rani Shri Sagunabai alias Aaisaheb Naik Nimbalkar(1777-91A.D.) known for piety and benevolence. The home is located in a fine and airy building just outside the town. The general management is entrusted to a committee of non-officials. The Chief medical officer, the assistant medical officer and the private practitioners in the town are doing honorary work in the home. The staff of the home includes a qualified nurse, and midwife. Mrs. Ramabai Kanade continued to do the work."<sup>87</sup> The maternity home was doing immense service to the public and had become very popular.

**MOBILE DISPENSARY: -**

In order to extend easy facilities of medical relief to the distant villages chief (Raja of Phaltan) was pleased to arrange for mobile dispensaries in the state. Since 1939 for this purpose medical officers were appointed. The touring medical officers were to tour their respective divisions at least for five days in a month. Additional medicine was

provided for in order to fresh demands by these touring medical officers. The subject of the state is as especially the great majority in villages welcomed this most useful feature of medical relief, as it had provided to be a boon to them. The medical relief was free and carried to the doors of the villagers in the state.<sup>88</sup> Thus the medical service was provided by the Raja to his subject free or on nominal charges and continued still 1948A.D.

**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION: -**

The education in the Phaltan state received much impetus during reigns of last two Rulers i.e. 1860A.D. -1948A.D. In Phaltan state there was a increase in number of schools and scholars. The Vedic school was closed. There is only one separate girls school at Phaltan but in the villages girls were taught along with the boys. The numbers of girls had increased.

The most noteworthy event under the head of instruction was the opening of High School at Phaltan in 1895A.D. The first grade Anglo Vernacular school named Mudhoji English School had been as promised in the year 1894A.D. raised to the status of Mudhoji High school.

All these school were examined by the state Deputy Educational Inspector and also by the assistants to the deputy Educational Inspector Satara. The Karbhari also visited. Mudhojirao was present at the price distribution ceremony of the Mudhoji English School.<sup>89</sup> There was a

separate school in Phaltan for low caste boys; in this school low caste boys were admitted free and supplied with slates and books free of cost.<sup>90</sup> 52 primary schools were there in the Phaltan state by the year 1938-39A.D.<sup>91</sup>

This town possessed a High School and Anglo Vernacular and a large primary Marathi school with an Urdu class for the Mohammedans, a girl school under matriculate Head Mistress, a Maratha Boarding School and Separate school for the depressed classes. A number of students from the outside took advantage of the cheap but efficient educational facilities afforded here.<sup>92</sup> The educational department was under the supervision of the Deputy Educational Inspector who was responsible for their efficiency and control.<sup>93</sup> Shrimant Mudhojirao IV alias Bapusaheb was very progressive and modern in his educational schemes. He brought into existence several primary schools and had a very well equipped and efficiently staffed in the High school. He also established nearly 40 years ago and spread education in the depressed classes by having a school for them. Only nominal fees were charged for education in 1906A.D. Then he made educations free of cost in 1907A.D.<sup>94</sup>

The population was mostly agricultural and there was no desire for education, Local board came into existence in the Phaltan state in 1931A.D.



and all the primary school were put under the control of local board. The Local Board Act of 1932A.D. was passed and promulgated in the state.

Thus all these primary schools, Mudhoji High School, Girl School, Vedic school were making steady progress up to 1948A.D. spreading literacy among the masses.

#### **RELIGIOUS POLICY OF THE STATE: -**

At the beginning, the Phaltan Ruler were independent and paid nominal tribute to their overlords. But in their internal administration they were the highest authority. Therefore they had the full right to grant *Watans* lands etc. to any person or any religious endowment. In Phaltan state Hindus Mohammedans, Jains, Parsis, Christians and people from other minority groups were living in harmony. The Rulers of the Phaltan were generally benevolent and religious minded. Sagunabai (1777-91A.D.) was a pious lady in the royal family and she was compared with Aahilyabai Holkar of Indore.<sup>95</sup>

This was the administrative set-up of the Phaltan state. Only the major aspects of the administration have been touched upon. As it was a princely state it was akin to other princely states in the adjoining areas. Hence only the finer aspects of administration have been put here.

Thus the administration of the Phaltan state was run at initially on the pattern of medieval types and subsequently Maratha types of administration was introduced and finally after 1818A.D., the administration of the Phaltan state was on British model. The last two Rulers were run the administration for the welfare of the subjects. Anyhow the administration of this state was model one among S.M.C. states and ideal for other Rulers.

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**CHAPTER – VIII**

# **EPILOGUE**

## CHAPTER – VIII

### EPILOGUE

The study of former Phaltan state is interesting and fascinating because Phaltan state was one of the leading and oldest Maratha states in Maharashtra. Phaltan was the capital town of Phaltan state and now it is one of the taluka places of Satara district of Maharashtra state at present.

The origin of this state goes to the middle of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. This state came into existence in 1248 A.D. and lasted upto 1948 A.D. During this lengthy period of 664 years, the Rulers served initially under Bahamins and Adilshahis and they undertook some political expeditions, when Shivaji founded Maratha Raj in western Maharashtra, this royal family joined Shivaji's mission and supported the cause of Maratha Swarajya. There were in all 25 Rulers of this family.

The present study of the state of Phaltan is based on the original source material available from family records from Naik Nimbalkar as well as the Archives of Kolhapur, Bombay, Pune etc. In addition the published original sources are also referred from the Libraries of Shivaji University, Bharat Itihas Shanshodhak Mandal, Pune, Gokhale

Institute, Poona. The secondary material also plenty of information regarding the subject matter of study which are also referred vigorously.

In the present study, an attempt has been made to explain the full details of the history of Phaltan citing the origin of the rulers, of their vassalage during the ages of North Indian Muslim rulers like Alauddin Khilji, Mohummad bin Tughluq and then the Bahamins and its off-shoots viz. Bijapur and Ahmednagar. Moreover the study gives details of the rulers of Phaltan states having their contribution for making of the Maratha Swaraja, then in expansion of the Maratha suzerainty in the North and the South. The present work give details of the political and administrative affairs of the ruler, their public utility works, system of administration, foreign affairs etc. Thus the study covers almost all aspects of the history of Phaltan state. I sincerely tried my best to present the unknown information to the readers and humbly attempted to enrich their knowledge. From my thesis I have drawn the following conclusions :

In the first chapter the origin and establishment of the family and state of Phaltan is cited. It covers all the oral traditions and origin sources which shed the light on the inception of the family of the Naik

Nimbalkar. The first ruler from the family was Nimbraj I, came from the North to Deccan in 1270 A.D. who previously belonged to Rajput Parmar race. He settled at Nimbalk village. Hence his family received the name of Nimbalkar after the name of this place. This family of Nimbalkar ruled over the area of Phaltan from 1284 A.D. to 1948 A.D. covering the period of 664 years. The honour and prestige of this family had risen to highest ebb when it cultivated matrimonial alliance with the Bhosale family of Shahaji and Shivaji. Earlier the ruler of Nimbalkar family helped the Shahaji to acquire firm footing in political arena of the Deccan. In the struggle of Shivaji with the Mughals and the Adilshahis, the Nimbalkar stood by him and helped in achieving his foremost objectives of Maratha Swaraja. This chapter covers, the Nimbalkars vassalage under the Muslim rulers of the North (viz. Khilgis and Tughlugs) the Yadavas of Devgiri, the Bahamins of Bidar, Adilshahis of Bijapur, the Nizamshahis of Ahmednagar. When the Maratha Hero Shivaji took banner of independence in his hands, the Nimbalkars changed their allegiance and actively participated in building of the Maratha nation.

Then they cultivated same relations with the emerging Peshwas. After the fall of Maratha empire in 1818 A.D. They became one of the

feudatories of the Raja of Satara under the guarantee of the East India Company, by signing the two separate Agreements with the overlord and the guarantor.

After the lapse of the state of Satara in 1848 A.D. by Lord Delhousie, the state of Phaltan continued under the East India Company and later under the crown. From 1860 to 1948 A.D. the two enlightened rulers like Mudhojirao IV (1860 A.D. to 1916 A.D.) and Malojirao (1916 A.D. to 1948 A.D.) the state had achieved greatest progress in all fields. Under the patronage of the British Authorities, the erstwhile rulers endeavoured hard for upliftment of the conditions of their subjects by working in agriculture, irrigations, trade and commerce, making of roads, education, industries etc.

In addition this chapter covers the geographical features of the state of Phaltan. As geographical features play an important role in shaping the lives of the people. The location and geography of the area bent and compell the people to advance and create a milestone in history. The same affect of geography we notice in the lives of the people. The state is known for the famous temples of Mahanabhav Saint (Dakshin Kashi), Jainas, Ram, Mahadev, Nageshowr, Jabreshwar

etc. People from other state come on pilgrimage of the above temples. From middle ages the state is known for textile industry. The cotton, like Dhotarjodi, Lugadi, Uparni and in production of kardi oil, jaggery, wheat, jowar, country cotton and wollen blankets. Due to its novel products the state attracted traders from Gujarat, Satara, Poona, etc.

In the second chapter the events which led to the rise of the Maratha power due to the help of the members of the family of Naik Nimbalkar are cited. They played a vital role in the formation of Maratha Raj and later in its consolidation. It is due to the timely and much needed help of the Nimbalkar family the immediate predecessors of Shivaji rose to eminence in politics of the Deccan. Vangoji Naik Nimbalkar patronised Maloji and Vithoji, the two brothers of Bhosale family. Maloji was the grandfather of Great Shivaji, Vangoji gave his sister Dipabai to Maloji and from that couple born Shahaji Bhosale. The two brothers helped Vangoji against Adilshahi of Bijapur for culturing some parts with western parts of Bijapur. It was because of Vangoji, the Nizamshahi Ruler invited the two brother under their service and conferred on them the Jagirs of Junnar and fortress of Shivaneri. Due to good offices of Vangoji the marriage between Shahaji and Jijabai

daughter of Khalkhoji Jadhavrao was concluded. In short Vangoji's estimation is great so far as the rise of Maratha power is concerned. It was he who helped and co-ordinated the members of the Bhosale family in all respect. He was a great soldier and met the death of a soldier himself.

Likewise in the same chapter the estimation of successive ruler Mudhoji is mentioned. His daughter Saibai was married with Shivaji. Mudhoji II helped his son-in-law for capturing of Adilshahi territories. In turn, it helped the cause of Hindi Swarajs.

When Mohummed Adilshaha made Bajaji a prisoner on condition of conversion to Islam he was released Shivaji reconverted Bajaji and gave his daughter Sakubai to his son Mahadaji to him in marriage. Hence Shivaji's help to the Nimbalkar family is also mentioned. Simultaneously in this chapter Mahadaji, Shivaji's son-in-law stood now and then for completion of the mission of Maratha Swaraja. In all expeditions of Shivaji in Karnatic Mahadaji took part. After Shivaji's death he extended same support to his son Sambhaji against the surviving power in the Deccan i.e. Mughals. Aurangjeb over powered Mahadaji and he was put in the prison of Gwalior till his last days.

After death of Sambhaji, Rajaram, the second son of Shivaji ascended the Maratha throne. He appealed to Mudhoji, the ruler of Phaltan for help against the Mughals to which Mudhoji responded well. Mudhoji also helped Shahu Chhatrapati the next Maratha successor against the Siddhis of Janjira. Peshwa Bajirao I recognised his services against the Siddhis. Mudhoji III was succeeded by his adopted son Maloji. In short upto the rise of the Peshwa the Naik Nimbalkars and the members of the Bhosale family stood by each others. It is due to the co-operation and co-ordination of both, the Maratha empire expanded in all directions.

In the later part of the chapter the role played by Naik Nimbalkar in consolidation of Maratha empire under the Peshwa is mentioned, from the rise Peshwas to the downfall of the Maratha empire in 1818 A.D. The rulers of Phaltan took part in all the expeditions in the Karnatic against Hyder Ali, Tipo Sultan and in the battle fought against the Nizam and lastly against the East India Company.

When the rulers of Phaltan were in the battles, Sagunabai managed the affairs of Phaltan state from 1767 to 1791, as Ailyabai Holkar of Indore, Anubai Ghorapade of Ichalkaranji and Yeshodabai



Dafle of Jath hold prominent position in their families, likewise Sagunabai also respected and honoured in Phaltan state.

After the fall of Maratha power, the state of Phaltan was put under the control of Raja of Satara under new tripartiate Agreements in 1820 A.D. This allegiance under Raja continued till the state of Satara lapsed in 1848 A.D.

Lastly in the chapter, the importance of Phaltan state is given that almost all the Maratha Rulers, the Peshwas and important nobles halted and rested in the state of Phaltan while on their expeditions or pilgrimage.

The Third chapter gives the details of the political and administrative activities of the rulers of the Phaltan under the Raja of Satara. After the fall of Maratha power in 1818 A.D., the Maratha state under Raja Pratapsinh was created by the East India Company. Under him the six princely states of Phaltan, Akkalkot, Jath, Wai, Bhore, and Aund were given. The British stood as a guarantor. In 1820 A.D. at first on 22<sup>nd</sup> April the East India Company entered into an agreement with Janrao Naik Nimbalkar and then on 5<sup>th</sup> July, 1820 the second agreement executed with Raja Pratapsinh of Satara.

The provisions of both treaties are mentioned in greater detail in the chapter, so that the reader may get full information of the transaction between the East India Company and the Raja of Phaltan, and the Raja of Satara and vice-versa.

During the period between 1820 to 1848 the Naiks Nimbalkar of Phaltan had very cordial relations with the East India Company. They maintained their own status and always kept their eyes on the upliftment of their subjects. The East India Company, organised the civil and revenue administration under its efficient officials. Because of proper administrative set up the financial position of the state improved. The agriculture and trade flourished. The state was free from any sort of debt.

During the period of Janrao the English officers like Grant Duff and Colonel Briggs paid their visit to the state of Phaltan. Janrao witnessed the transitional period and the transfer of power from the Marathas to the East India Company. He diligently handled the state affairs with the English though he was unhappy with regards to approach of the British.

After the death of Janrao, the Raja of Satara attached twice the state of Phaltan in 1825 A.D. and 1828 A.D. After the payment of

Nazrana (succession fees), the adopted successor was permitted by him to continue to rule.

From 1828 A.D. to 1853 A.D. Sahebjibai administered the state of Phaltan. In 1841, the Raja of Satara gave permission to adopt a nephew of her husband as the successor. His name was Mahadaji and later known as Mudhoji.

Sahebjibai ruled the state efficiently. The British Resident of Satara C. Ovans highly praised her civil administration. Police arrangement and maintenance of Law and Order situation in the state. Financially also the state achieved considerable progress. In the year 1839 A.D., an important political change took place. The feudatories states which were under the Raja of Satara were henceforth brought under the direct control of East India Company.

During 1820 A.D. to 1848 A.D., the state of Phaltan was being administered by Janrao and after his death by his widow Sahebjibai and lastly in 1841, the Raja of Satara granted permission for the adoption of Mudhoji IV. In his minority Sahebjibai continued to rule till her death in 1853 A.D.

In this period, the state had adjusted itself with English overlordship under the able leadership of Sahebjibai. The visiting British Residents of Satara paid glowing tribute to her. Her contribution to the family in particular and the subject in general is highly appreciable. The succeeding ruler Mudhoji-IV was trained and brought under her. Later like her Queen mother he too earned great name and fame for his progressive programmes.

The important events of note in this period were the treaties of 1820 A.D., death of Janrao, attachment of the state twice by the Raja of Satara, the rule of Sahebjibai and adoption of Mudhoji IV as the heir apparent. In 1848 A.D., the state of Satara ceased to exist. It was lapsed by Lord Dalhousie by applying the Doctrine of lapse.

The fourth chapter of the thesis covers the events and the reforms introduced of Mudhoji IV (1860 to 1916 A.D.). He is considered as the first enlightened ruler of the state. He began the age of modernisation which is touch the lives of the people.

In almost all walks of life he introduced reforms. He constructed the Lonand-Pandharpur road, the water works, founded Municipality in the town of Phaltan, laid drainage system, he introduced educational

reforms by opening the schools, high schools, for men and women and the night schools for the labour class people. He was blessing of God in disguise. He incidentally selected heir of the state, when his own elder brother earlier choice did not attend the ceremony due to his serious illness.

The details of education reforms of Mudhoji IV found place in this chapter. The statistical datas extracted from various Annual Reports of Bombay state and Phaltan state are mentioned. His educational reforms were so great and invaluable that irrespective of caste, class, creed and social status all the people received his attention. He used to say knowledge is power.

The educational institutions and the meritorious and deserving students were not left unsupported. A number of school buildings were built and students who desired higher education received freeships and scholarships instituted in the name of the ruler, queen mother and the emperor of England. In addition the women folk received prime attention. They were trained vocationally also. Above all Mudhoji IV visited personally the educational establishments and watched their progress. He also allotted special funds out of the Royal treasury.

Mudhoji IV organised the revenue administration of state as well. In league with English official, the state lands was surveyed and classified into categories and thereupon the revenue was fixed. Agriculture was the main profession of the people and income derived from it was the vital source for the state.

In the field of agriculture also Mudhoji IV achieved remarkable success. The means of irrigation were improved. To educate the peasants Shetakari Sabha or Agricultural Association was being formed. When famine visited the state he made an arrangement of work which provided livelihood to the affected. Arrangement of loan for agriculture development known as Tagai was given to the farmers. Due to efforts of Mudhoji IV the dams of Banganga, Kapadgaon, Koregaon, etc. were completed. The small rivers, nallahas, wells were dug and the new ones got repaired. Likewise to facilitate trade and commerce and for travelling and giving relief works of famine to the skilled and unskilled labours, he undertook construction of roads like Lonand-Pandharpur, Adarki, Mograla Ghat, Jawali-Shinganapur road, Phaltan-Baramati road etc. Even the interior villages were connected with provincial roads. Its maintenance was also undertaken with keen interest.

Looking to the grievances of the famine affected people he exempted 25% and on another occasion  $1/6^{\text{th}}$  of the land revenue. He is also known in the state for construction of temples. He established the Phaltan town Municipality and a dispensary, which looked into the sanitation and public health problems. It was a greater exercise to the people with regards to representative system. The town of Phaltan stood first in the whole of the Deccan for its drinking water supply works. In the series he also built, school houses, *chavaris* for official use and *dharmashalas* for the people.

In the chain of educational reforms to cultivate the habit of reading among the masses he opened the Victoria Diamond Jubilee Library in Phaltan. In addition a club of Phaltan too was well known for amenities in the town.

Thus in this chapter the achievements and estimation of the enlightened ruler Mudhoji IV are narrated. He earned great name and respect even in the eyes of English official, who always commanded, his reforms and administration. He was faithful ally of the British Government. Hence the British conferred on him the membership of Governors Legislative Council and C.S.I. He was great architect also.

To his name the palace of Manmohan, the Municipality hall and club hall are enlisted.

The Fifth chapter narrates the achievements of Malojirao who had succeeded after the death of his father Mudhoji IV. He too was modern reformer stepped into the shoes of erstwhile Mudhoji IV. During his time the two world wars were fought, there was rise of dictators in Italy and Germany. In India the Nationalist movement under Mahatma Gandhi had begun for freedom of the country. He was Gandhian and respected the will of the people, then joined Indian Union in 1948.

Maloji had very pious background of his family. Mudhoji IV gave education and training to him in all respect. On the day of investiture itself Maloji took important decisions which are landmark in social history of the state. By his edicts he restored equality and freedom to the backward and depressed class of the people. His Queen Rani Laxmi saheb also stood by him in implementing the social reforms. In addition he maintained fair and cordial relations with the British. He stood by them in critical times of war and peace. In the first world war the British were being helped by him by war loans, and supply of soldiers.



In the internal and external policies of state Maloji ably dealt the affairs. The co-operative movement in the state geared up and there was general improvement in the economic conditions of the people. The Phaltan Bank, Shri Laxmi Central Co-operative Bank Irrigated Land Owners Sangh and other such financial institution played a pivotal role in improving economic life in the state.

Maloji's educational reforms are highly appreciable. He was a great lover of education and wanted that his people should be educated in all respect. Thus his efforts rendered fruits, the people from high and low cadres were also not left behind. The schools, highschools, colleges and other educational institution had come into being. He passed the compulsory Education Act (1918-19). He opened Yuvaraj Pratapsinh Poor Boys Education Fund Ltd. (1930) and gave liberal scholarship to the students. Equally the aspirants of higher education received financial help for completion of their studies. In the year 1932 Sir Jadunath Sarkar paid visit to Phaltan and he was an highly impressed by noting an academic progress made in the states. His remarks encouraged the teachers and the students alike.

Maloji was a liberal patron. Outside the state also he liberally donated money to the educational and research institutions. Among the

donors list his name is in fore-front. In the state he encouraged the Scout movement through which as discipline and sense of duty was brought in the students.

In general, public service also Maloji is remembered, he provided comfortable and inexpensive transport service and electric supply to the people of his state through, The Kishorsinh Motor Service Co. (1926) and The Kishorsinh Electric Supply (1926) respectively.

Under the liberal patronage of Maloji his subjects were not only improved economically, but they equally trained themselves in political affairs of the Government leading towards responsible Government of the people which India got in 1947. In this regard, he started Panchayat and Local Boards systems in the villages and opened the Legislative Council of the Phaltan state.

His general contribution and achievements are establishment of Shri Saguna Mata Maternity Home, Phaltan (1928), Agriculture Institutions and Exhibitions (1929) Sugar-Cane Research Station, Padegaon (1931), the Phaltan Sugar Works Ltd. (1933), the Phaltan Sugar Works trolley line etc.

In 1933-34 he purchased tractor, it is said that it was of its first kind in the whole of Asia. Thus Maloji's contribution is highly remarkable. He is the sole person who modernised the state of Phaltan in all respect.

Chapter VI of thesis covers the second phase (1935 to 1948 A.D.) of Shrimant Malojirao's achievements in particular and condition of the state in general. In this period an important events took place in national and international sphere. The second world war had begun and in India the freedom movement under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi had geared up. In this chapter the role of Maloji in national and international affairs is covered.

Malojiraje was very reliable person among his subjects and Rajas of other S.M.C. state. Because of his calibre he got elected to Narendra Mandal (Chamber of Princess). In this capacity he counterparts worked for the welfare of his and their subjects.

When Great Britain gripped into clutches of the dictators of Germany and Italy, the Indian Raja came forward for the help the British, the foremost among them was Maloji when he was appealed by the Emperor of angland he at once responded to the call and felt that it

was his and his subjects prime responsibility to come forward in critical time of the British. He raised loans by issuing war bonds from the masses and had gives way new recruits were enrolled and sent to fight the war on behest of England.

In the whole of Deccan Maloji was respected he invited important personalities from every corner of India, honoured them with costly presents of money and mementos. The celebration of 82th Birthday Celebration of Prof. D. K. Karve, Dr. S. Radhakrishnai and others visits to the state are important events in this phase.

He had very cordial contacts with Bhaurao Patil, the great educationalist and social worker in the region of Satara, Maloji was great admirer of him. The same social reforms he brought in his state by giving rights to the Harijan community to enter the temples. He is remembered as the great patron of art and literature. For the development of the same he gave liberal donations to the Research Institutions, Colleges, Highschools Magazines, Newspapers, Writers, Scholars and even for completion of higher studies abroad.

Under him the state undertook number of Public Work through the P.W.D. The new roads were constructed, the old ones were

repaired, the new buildings for offices, bungalow, jail establishments and public wells were being constructed. Even he made arrangements of the extension of railway line and landing of aeroplanes at Phaltan.

Maloji was a liberal and he trained his subjects in democratic way from the beginning of his reign itself. The local boards, Municipalities, the nomination of the members election progress, decentralisation of power and other reforms were introduced. In the Phaltan state Legislative Assembly representation to all class of the people was given. Even women have been accommodated to there the responsibilities of the Government.

In the second phase, many political parties emerged and took part in the elections. The elected members represented the people in the Assembly. In toto Maloji trained his subject in democratic patterns, thus we may say the people of Phaltan state were well prepared and knowledgeable in rule of the people based on liberty, equality and fraternity, before Indian Union was formed in 1950. Maloji and his people were readily joined the Indian Union and merged themselves into main stream of India.

The seventh chapter covers the general survey of the administration of the state of Phaltan. As this state was under the suzerainty of the Muslims till the rise of the Marathas had considerable impart of Muslim system of administration in its annals. Later the Maratha system of administration was introduced till 1818 A.D. After extinction of Marathas power the British influence in the state was felt, because by the treaty of 1820. The State had come under British control. Thus began the modern age in the state in all respect.

Here the Kingship, the powers of the King, the Diwan, Karbhari, Mamalaider, Patil, Kulkarni and others state officials have been clearly defined. The general administration, financial transactions, revenue administration, working of judiciary, jail administration and so on so forth are discussed in details. This gives us clear picture about the administrative system of the state.

The Police administration was managed efficiently. The law and order situation received first right of the ruler. All the different communities in the state lived with peace and harmony. The religious toleration of ruler gave impetus in the state for the development of the feeling of fraternity among the communities.

The Phaltan rulers were progressive and always bent on for introducing reforms. In this chapter their reforms in education, revenue, health, jail etc. have been mentioned. Though the resources of the state were insufficient for discharging effective system of administration, however, the rulers managed the state affairs with their best of abilities and limited sources of income. Shoulder to shoulder the Royal Ladies of the family played vital role in management of administration in the state when occasion demanded.

The Phaltan ruler had cordial relations with the British, they utilised the services of the British officials in revenue, health, public works and instructions, etc. The British officials whole heartedly co-operated and co-ordinated the Ruler in aspects concerned with the administration.

This chapter covers in details, the powers and the functions of the chief, his Karbhari and other her officials in the circle of state administration.

Thus it is suffice here to say the administration of the state of Phaltan was efficient and responsible to the people.

To sum up Phaltan state merged into Indian Union on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 1948 and became one of the Taluka of Satara districts at Bombay Presidency. The last ruler Malojirao joined Congress and continued his social and educational work in his former state as a representative of people. He was also Minister for some time, and opened Senior College at Phaltan, which is now one of the leading educational institutions in this area.

The Royal Palace, other historical edifices which erected before independence, speak about the past glory of Phaltan state and inspiring to the postirity.



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